



# Your Mac's Immune System


*Resilience through Endpoint Security*

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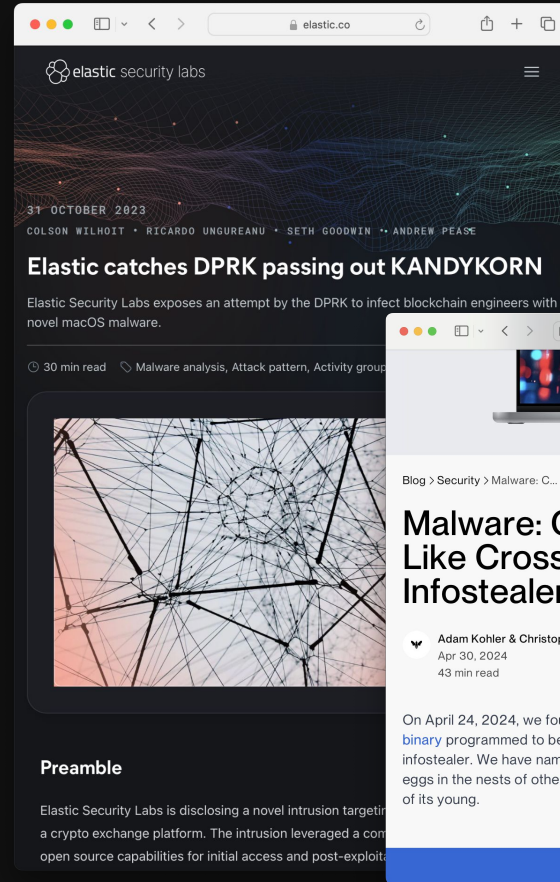
05.10.2024

Brandon Dalton  
Staff Security Researcher





# How can we detect what we've never seen?



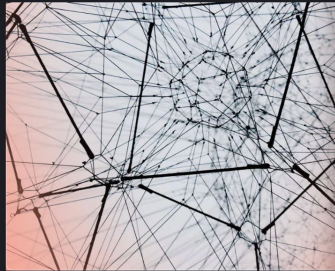
elastic security labs

31 OCTOBER 2023  
COLSON WILHOIT • RICARDO UNGUREANU • SETH GODWIN • ANDREW PEASE

## Elastic catches DPRK passing out KANDYKORN

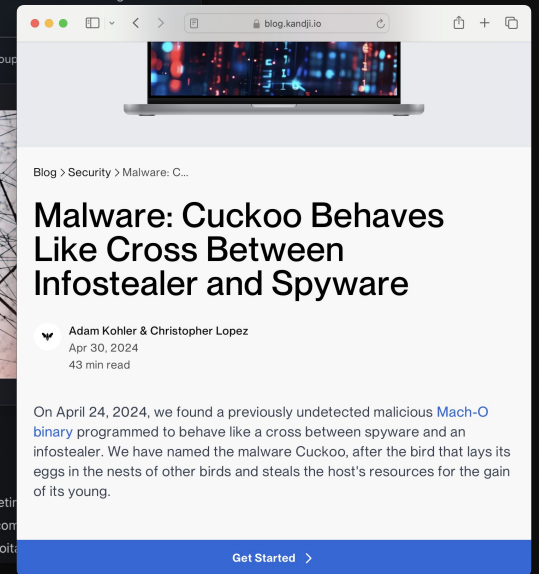
Elastic Security Labs exposes an attempt by the DPRK to infect blockchain engineers with novel macOS malware.

30 min read • Malware analysis, Attack pattern, Activity group




### Preamble

Elastic Security Labs is disclosing a novel intrusion targeting a crypto exchange platform. The intrusion leveraged a combination of open source capabilities for initial access and post-exploitation.



blog.kandji.io



Blog > Security > Malware: C...

## Malware: Cuckoo Behaves Like Cross Between Infostealer and Spyware

Adam Kohler & Christopher Lopez  
Apr 30, 2024  
43 min read

On April 24, 2024, we found a previously undetected malicious [Mach-O binary](#) programmed to behave like a cross between spyware and an infostealer. We have named the malware Cuckoo, after the bird that lays its eggs in the nests of other birds and steals the host's resources for the gain of its young.

[Get Started >](#)





## Brandon Dalton

Staff Security Researcher @ Kandji

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- **macOS threat and internals researcher**
- **Security tools developer**
  - Red Canary Mac Monitor
  - POSIX AtomicTestHarnesses
  - Threat emulation
- **Behavioral threat detection**





# Overview

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- 01 **The threats**
- 02 **Telemetry and eventing**
- 03 **Understanding Endpoint Security**
- 04 **AMOS: A case study**
- 05 **Building a detector**
- 06 **Demo!**





**What's out there?**





# AppleScript / OSA abuse

IDENTIFIED	VARIANT	CLASSIFICATION
2017	<b>OSX.Pirrit</b>	Adware
2017	<b>Snake</b>	Trojan
2017	<b>OSX/Dok</b>	RAT
2018	<b>OSX.DarthMiner</b>	RAT
2019	<b>OSX.Pirrit (second variant)</b>	Adware
2020	<b>OSX.EvilQuest / ThiefQuest</b>	Stealer
2020	<b>XCSSET</b>	RAT
2021	<b>OSX.OSAMiner</b>	Cryptojacking
2023	<b>RustBucket</b>	Stager / RAT
2023	<b>Atomic Stealer</b>	Stealer
2023	<b>MacStealer</b>	Stealer
2023	<b>Geacon stager</b>	Stager
2023	<b>MetaStealer</b>	Stealer

Blog > Security > How AMOS m...

## How AMOS macOS Stealer Avoids Detection

Sam Mayers & Christopher Lopez 10 min read  
Mar 2, 2024

Atomic macOS Stealer (AMOS) was first spotted in a Telegram channel as of January 20, 2024, the price was \$1,000.

Once installed, Atomic Stealer can exfiltrate various types of data, including keychain passwords, user documents, browser data, credit card information, crypto wallets, and more.

**ATOMIC MACOS STEALER (AMOS)**  
(The first and most famous stealer on macOS)

**SYSTEM:**

- Keychain (Dump all saved user passwords)
- SystemInfo (Complete system information)
- MacOS Password
- Hidden console when launching software

**BROWSERS:**

- Chrome (Autofills, Passwords, Cookies, Wallets, Cards)
- Firefox (Autofills, Cookies)
- Brave (Cookies, Passwords, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)
- Edge (Cookies, Passwords, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)
- Vivaldi (Cookies, Passwords, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)
- Yandex (Cookies, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)
- Opera (Cookies, Passwords, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)
- OperaGX (Cookies, Passwords, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)

15/44 security vendors and no sandboxes flagged this file as malicious

Crackinstall Size: 335.52 KB Last Modification Date: 6 hours ago

Community Score: 15/44

Popular threat label: trojan

Security vendors' analysis:

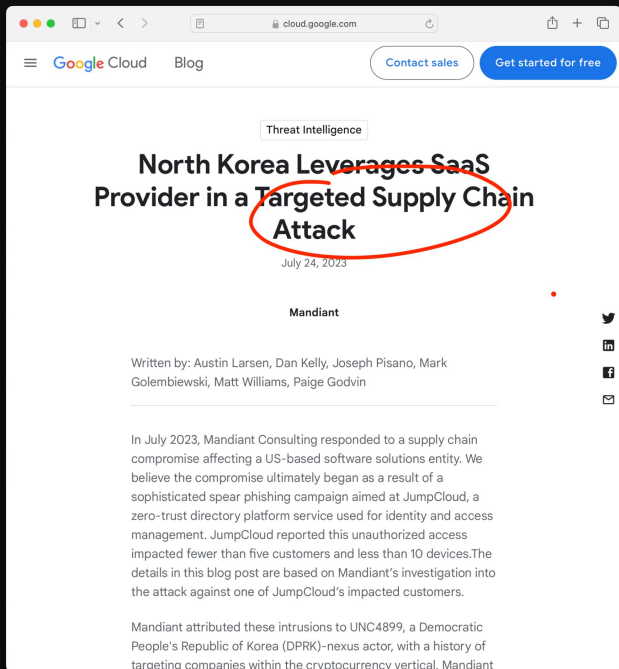
Vendor	Detection	Category
Avira (no cloud)	OSX/GM.Agent.QD	ClamAV
Cynet	Malicious (score: 99)	Emisoft
eScan	Trojan.MAC.Generic.118365	ESET-NOD32
Fortinet	MAC/Stealer.201tr	Google
Ikarus	Trojan.OSX.Psw	KTGW
Lionic	Trojan.OSX.Amos.Ifc	MAX
	OSX.Trojan.Gen.2	Tencent
	Trojan.MAC.Generic.118365	Acronis (Static ML)

VirusTotal April 30, 2024





# Further still... supply chain horror...



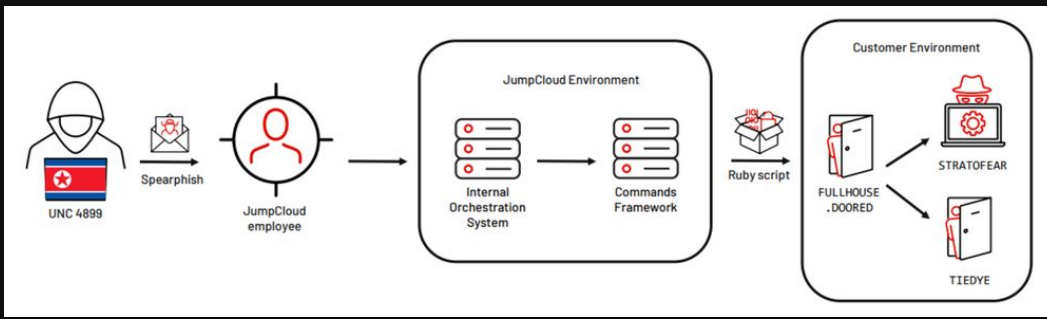
Stager execution (*Ruby*)



Persistence (*launchd*)



Collection (*proc, file, netconn, sleep*)





**Let's make sense of  
what we have...**







# What does a Mac do?

- **Runs software** and manages services
- Creates and **modifies files**
- Communicates over **networks** like WiFi and bluetooth
- Talks to “**accessories**” like the camera, trackpad, etc
- Enforces **privacy, management, and security** controls



Process

File

Network

“Accessories”

Controls



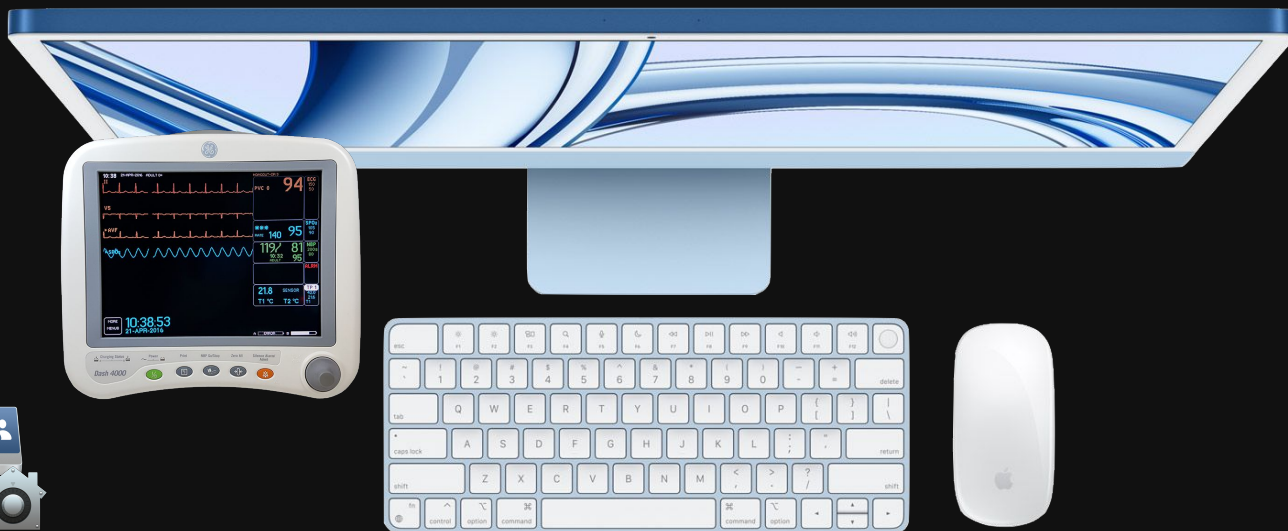
The screenshot shows a Mac desktop with the following elements:

- System Menu Bar:** Preview, File, Edit, View, Go, Tools, Window, Help. Date: Mon Apr 22 12:29 PM.
- Browser Window (Safari):** Address bar: yahoo.com. Tab: Tripadvisor: Over a billion reviews & contributions for... Article: "Electric Aviation Stock Pick" by pressreach.com. Text: "New intriguing EV flight stock is taking off – uncover the story now."
- System Preferences (Bluetooth):** Shows Bluetooth is turned on. A notification says "Bluetooth This Mac is discoverable for 10 minutes."
- System Preferences (Wi-Fi):** Shows Wi-Fi is turned off.
- System Preferences (Control Center):** Shows various settings like Focus, Stage Manager, Screen Mirroring, Display, Sound, and Music.
- Applications Window:** Lists installed applications with columns for Name, Date Modified, and Size.
 

Name	Date Modified	Size
Utilities	Mar 21, 2024 at 12:03 AM	
Activity Monitor	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	4.7
AirPort Utility	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	39.5
Audio MIDI Setup	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	9.8
Bluetooth File Exchange	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	2
ColorSync Utility	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	5.1
Console	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	2.4
Digital Color Meter	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	1.5
Disk Utility	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	7.8
Grapher	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	11.2
Keychain Access	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	4.9
Migration Assistant	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	1.4
Print Center	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	2.6
Screen Sharing	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	5.2
Screenshot	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	455
Script Editor	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	2.8
System Information	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	4
Terminal	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	6.9
VoiceOver Utility	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	12.4
Voice Memos	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	6
Weather	Mar 20, 2024 at 11:13 PM	61.6
- Text Editor Window (Untitled - Edited):** Contains the text "Welcome to Objective-We 🙌!!".
- Dock:** Contains icons for Messages, App Store, Safari, Photos, Mail, Calendar (showing APR 22), Reminders, Notes, Apple TV, Music, Photos, App Store, System Preferences, and Trash.



# Telemetry



*A set of events...*





# System roles and responsibilities

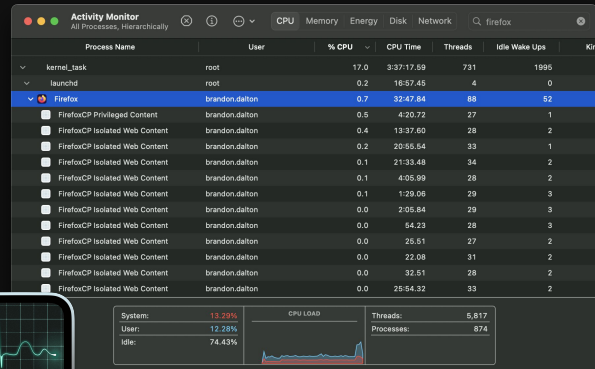




# User space

Desktop → Aqua (vs. the iOS SpringBoard)

- Application services and frameworks
- Talks to the kernel w/“**System Calls** / Mach Traps”





# Kernel space

At this level macOS  
can stop an action  
before it occurs

**Kernel** → **XNU** (XNU is Not Unix)

- Available, secure, performant
- Largely trusted code written by Apple
- Hybrid kernel – two *personalities*:
  - **BSD** (`execve()`, `posix_spawn()`, etc)
  - and **Mach** (*IPC and memory*)



# Detecting unknown threats...



# Behavioral detection

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Events are... a notification that something *will or has* happened.



Logging into to your Mac with Touch ID



Talking over iMessage



Launching an app



Saving a PDF



Sharing your screen





# In other words?

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*Standard* set of types minted *by Apple*. Events are “messages” containing info about what happened.



**ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_NOTIFY\_AUTHENTICATION**



**ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_AUTH\_RENAME**



**ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_AUTH\_EXEC**



**ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_AUTH\_CREATE**



**ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_NOTIFY\_SCREENSHARING\_ATTACH**



# They come from... Endpoint Security

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- **APIs** offered by Apple that allow us to develop **userland** security **agents**
- Real time **eventing**
  - *Kernel and userspace*
  - Authorize and notification of system activity
- **Performance**
  - Powerful event muting capabilities
- Available to **trusted entities** (restricted entitlement)



# Classes of events?



**ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_NOTIFY\_AUTHENTICATION**



**ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_AUTH\_EXEC**



Kernel Space (Mach / BSD)

**ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_AUTH\_\***



User Space

**ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_NOTIFY\_\***



# What do they cover?

## ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_AUTH\_\*

44 events (**30%**)

- AUTH\_EXEC
- AUTH\_OPEN
- AUTH\_MMAP
- AUTH\_SIGNAL
- AUTH\_CREATE
- AUTH\_RENAME

## ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_NOTIFY\_\*

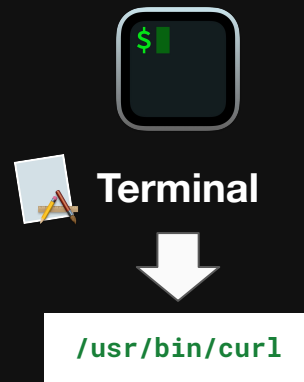
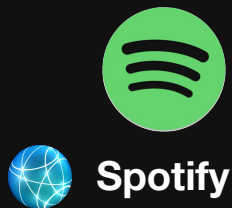
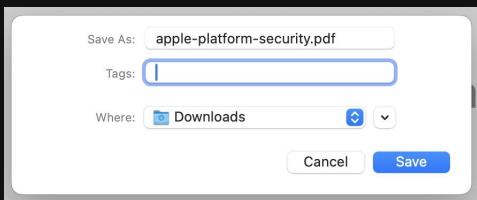
99 events (**70%**)

- NOTIFY\_BTM\_LAUNCH\_ITEM\_ADD
- NOTIFY\_XPC\_CONNECT
- NOTIFY\_SCREENSHARING\_ATTACH
- NOTIFY\_XP\_MALWARE\_DETECTED



# Event correlation







Every event was **“initiated”** by a process





# Building a detector







first... some questions to answer...

-  What data do we have access to?
-  Given a “**threat**” ...
-  What’re the visible end behaviors?
-  Using those behaviors write a “heuristic”
-  Test it
-  Tune it at scale



# What's our data source?

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- ✔  What data do we have access to?
-  Given a “**threat**” ...
-  What're the visible end behaviors?
-  Using those behaviors write a “heuristic”
-  Test it
-  Tune it at scale

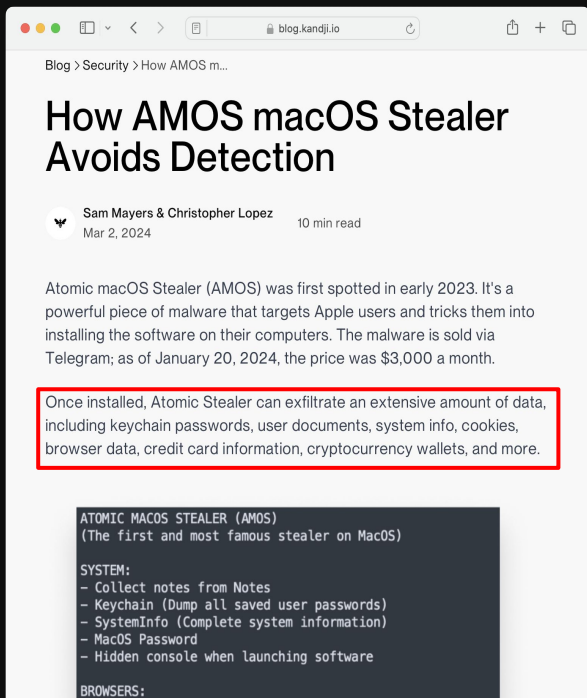
Endpoint Security!





# AMOS

## A case study - Stealer



Blog > Security > How AMOS m...

## How AMOS macOS Stealer Avoids Detection

Sam Mayers & Christopher Lopez  
Mar 2, 2024 10 min read

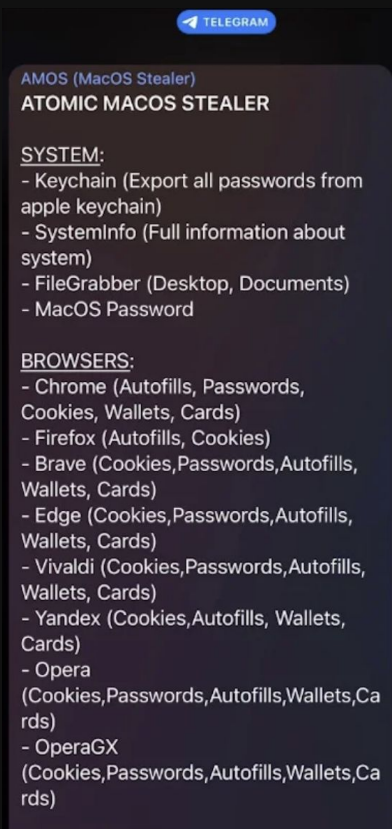
Atomic macOS Stealer (AMOS) was first spotted in early 2023. It's a powerful piece of malware that targets Apple users and tricks them into installing the software on their computers. The malware is sold via Telegram; as of January 20, 2024, the price was \$3,000 a month.

Once installed, Atomic Stealer can exfiltrate an extensive amount of data, including keychain passwords, user documents, system info, cookies, browser data, credit card information, cryptocurrency wallets, and more.

```
ATOMIC MACOS STEALER (AMOS)
(The first and most famous stealer on MacOS)

SYSTEM:
- Collect notes from Notes
- Keychain (Dump all saved user passwords)
- SystemInfo (Complete system information)
- MacOS Password
- Hidden console when launching software

BROWSERS:
```



TELEGRAM

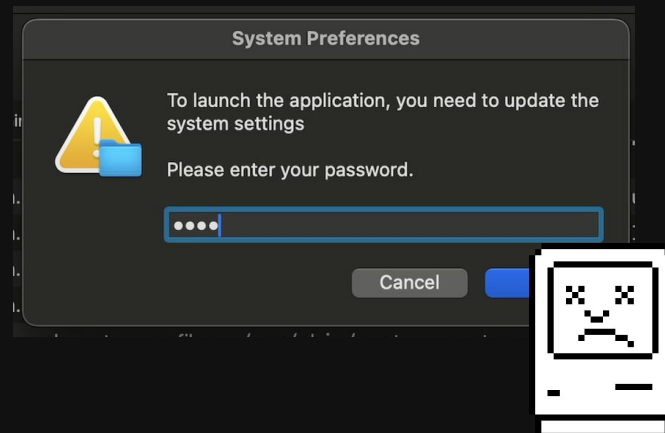
AMOS (MacOS Stealer)  
ATOMIC MACOS STEALER

**SYSTEM:**

- Keychain (Export all passwords from apple keychain)
- SystemInfo (Full information about system)
- FileGrabber (Desktop, Documents)
- MacOS Password







**BROWSERS:**

- Chrome (Autofills, Passwords, Cookies, Wallets, Cards)
- Firefox (Autofills, Cookies)
- Brave (Cookies, Passwords, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)
- Edge (Cookies, Passwords, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)
- Vivaldi (Cookies, Passwords, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)
- Yandex (Cookies, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)
- Opera (Cookies, Passwords, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)
- OperaGX (Cookies, Passwords, Autofills, Wallets, Cards)



# What's the threat?

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- ✓  What data do we have access to?
- ✓  Given a “**threat**” ...
  -  What're the visible end behaviors?
  -  Using those behaviors write a “heuristic”
  -  Test it
  -  Tune it at scale





# Grab a sample

15/44 security vendors and no sandboxes flagged this file as malicious

CrackInstall

Size: 335.52 KB | Last Modification Date: 6 hours ago

Community Score: 15/44

Popular threat label: trojan

Threat categories: trojan

Security vendor	Detection	Category
Avira (no cloud)	OSX/GM.Agent.QD	ClamAV
Cynet	Malicious (score: 99)	Emsisoft
eScan	Trojan.MAC.Generic.118365	ESET-NOD32
Fortinet	MAC/Stealer_201tr	Google
Ikarus	Trojan.OSX.Psw	KTGW
Lionic	Trojan.OSX.Amos.Ifc	MAX
Symantec	OSX.Trojan.Gen.2	Tencent
WIPRE	Trojan.MAC.Generic.118365	Acronis (Static ML)
		Undetected

VirusTotal April 30, 2024

```
foxtrot@foxtrots-Virtual-Machine Downloads % ./CrackInstall
```

System Preferences

To launch the application, you need to update the system settings

Please enter your password.

Cancel OK



# AMOS end behaviors

## Event correlation

Timestamp	Event type	Context
12:10:06.409	▲ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXIT	CrackInstall
12:10:02.386	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:10:02.381	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:10:02.346	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:47.320	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:44.507	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:44.449	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:44.447	📄 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_CREATE	/Users/foxtrot/735085359/login-keychain
12:08:44.446	📄 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_CREATE	/Users/foxtrot/735085359/password-entered
12:08:44.335	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:36.054	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:35.944	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:35.864	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:35.764	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:35.756	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:35.756	📄 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_CREATE	/Users/foxtrot/735085359/Sysinfo.txt
12:08:35.752	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:35.673	🔗 ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	CrackInstall
12:08:35.670	🗄️ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_MMAP	CrackInstall
12:08:35.668	🔒 ⚠️ ⚠️ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXEC	./CrackInstall

## Some correlated events include:

- Adhoc signed execution
- Executed for ~2 minutes
- Created 3 files in the user's home directory:

Sysinfo.txt

password-entered

login-keychain

```
exec_target.group_leader.  
codesigning_type ==  
.adhoc
```



# AMOS end behaviors

## Process group #1

Timestamp	Process name	Signing ID	Process p...	Command line
12:08:36.054	sh	com.apple.sh	/bin/sh	sh -c osascript -e 'display dialog "To launch the application, you need to update the system settings \n\nPlease enter your password." with title "System Preferences" with icon caution default answer "" giving up after 30 with hidden answer'
12:08:35.946	dsccl	com.apple.dsccl	/usr/bi...	dsccl /Local/Default -authonly foxtrot
12:08:35.945	bash	com.apple.bash	/bin/ba...	sh -c dsccl /Local/Default -authonly foxtrot ""
12:08:35.944	sh	com.apple.sh	/bin/sh	sh -c dsccl /Local/Default -authonly foxtrot ""
12:08:35.878	system_pro...	com.apple.syst...	/usr/sb...	system_profiler SPDisplaysDataType
12:08:35.868	bash	com.apple.bash	/bin/ba...	sh -c system_profiler SPDisplaysDataType
12:08:35.864	sh	com.apple.sh	/bin/sh	sh -c system_profiler SPDisplaysDataType
12:08:35.767	system_pro...	com.apple.syst...	/usr/sb...	system_profiler SPHardwareDataType
12:08:35.765	bash	com.apple.bash	/bin/ba...	sh -c system_profiler SPHardwareDataType
12:08:35.764	sh	com.apple.sh	/bin/sh	sh -c system_profiler SPHardwareDataType
12:08:35.758	sw_vers	com.apple.sw_...	/usr/bi...	sw_vers
12:08:35.757	bash	com.apple.bash	/bin/ba...	sh -c sw_vers
12:08:35.756	sh	com.apple.sh	/bin/sh	sh -c sw_vers
12:08:35.755	mkdir	com.apple.mkdir	/bin/mk...	mkdir /Users/foxtrot/735085359
12:08:35.753	bash	com.apple.bash	/bin/ba...	sh -c mkdir /Users/foxtrot/735085359
12:08:35.752	sh	com.apple.sh	/bin/sh	sh -c mkdir /Users/foxtrot/735085359
12:08:35.678	osascript	com.apple.osas...	/usr/bi...	osascript -e tell application "Terminal" to set visible of front window to false
12:08:35.675	bash	com.apple.bash	/bin/ba...	sh -c osascript -e 'tell application "Terminal" to set visible of front window to false'
12:08:35.673	sh	com.apple.sh	/bin/sh	sh -c osascript -e 'tell application "Terminal" to set visible of front window to false'
12:08:35.668	CrackInst...	setup-555549...	/Users/_...	./CrackInstall

## Some behaviors include:

- Hides the terminal w/**osascript**
- Makes a directory w/**mkdir**
- Grabs the OS version w/**sw\_vers**
- Grabs hardware information w/**system\_profiler**
- Displays a dialog w/**osascript**

**exec\_target.correlated\_events.**  
**has\_exec\_target\_path**  
**( '/usr/bin/osascript' )**



# AMOS end behaviors

## Process group #2 (10s later)

Event Facts

Subtree: 3

zsh

CrackInst...

Process group (61)

Process execution events in the same group as CrackInstall will show in this unified table.

Timestamp	Process name	Signing ID	Process path	Command line
12:08:44.501	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Application Support/Script Editor/Templates/Droplets/Recursive Image File Processing Droplet.app
12:08:44.508	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Application Support/Script Editor/Templates/Droplets/Droplet with Settable Properties.app
12:08:44.499	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Application Support/Script Editor/Templates/Droplets/Recursive File Processing Droplet.app
12:08:44.498	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Image Capture/Support/LegacyDeviceDiscoveryHelpers/AirScanLegacyDiscovery.app
12:08:44.496	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Safari.app
12:08:44.495	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Kandji/Kandji Agent.app
12:08:44.494	com.apple.basena...	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Application Support/Kandji/Kandji Menu/Kandji Menu.app
12:08:44.493	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Red Canary Mac Monitor.app
12:08:44.491	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/The Legend of Pirates Online.app
12:08:44.490	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Suspicious Package.app
12:08:44.489	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Utilities/Kandji Extension Manager.app
12:08:44.487	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Kandji Self Service.app
12:08:44.486	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Visual Studio Code.app
12:08:44.454	grep	com.apple.bzfgrep	/usr/bin/_	grep -v /System
12:08:44.454	mdfind	com.apple.mdfind	/usr/bin/_	mdfind kMDItemContentType == 'com.apple.application-bundle' && kMDItemKind != 'System'
12:08:44.454	xargs	com.apple.xargs	/usr/bin/_	xargs -I % basename %
12:08:44.451	bash	com.apple.bash	/bin/bash	sh -c echo 'Installed Apps:' >> /Users/foxtrot/735085359/Sysinfo.txt && mdfind 'kMDItemContentType == 'com.apple.application-bundle' && kMDItemKind != 'System'   grep -v '/System'   xargs -I % basename %*' >> /Users/foxtrot/735085359/Sysinfo.txt
12:08:44.450	sh	com.apple.sh	/bin/sh	sh -c echo 'Installed Apps:' >> /Users/foxtrot/735085359/Sysinfo.txt && mdfind 'kMDItemContentType == 'com.apple.application-bundle' && kMDItemKind != 'System'   grep -v '/System'

Searches for installed apps with:

`mdfind kMDItemContentType`







and `xargs + basename`

`exec_target.process_path ==  
"/usr/bin/xargs"`



# What're the behaviors?

---

- ✓  What data do we have access to?
- ✓  Given a “**threat**” ...
- ✓  What're the visible end behaviors?
-  Using those behaviors write a “heuristic”
-  Test it
-  Tune it at scale





# Detecting AMOS



## ES\_EVENT\_TYPE\_AUTH\_EXEC





```
exec_target.process_path == “/usr/bin/xargs”
&&
exec_target.group_leader.codesigning_type == .adhoc
&&
(
  exec_target.process_group.has_exec(‘/usr/bin/osascript’)
  ||
  exec_target.group_leader.correlated_events.has_mmap(‘/System/.../AppleScript.component/’)
  ||
  exec_target.group_leader.correlated_events.has_mmap(‘/System/.../JavaScript.component/’)
)
```





# Testing!

---

- ✓  What data do we have access to?
- ✓  Given a “**threat**” ...
- ✓  What’re the visible end behaviors?
- ✓  Using those behaviors write a “heuristic”

 Test it

 Tune it at scale

and lastly...maintain



# Our options for testing?

- (a) (**Ideally**) With the sample used to build the detector
- (b) Engineer **emulation** and use that focusing on core behaviors

Process group (61)

Process execution events in the same group as CrackInstall will show in this unified table.

Timestamp	Process name	Signing ID	Process path	Command line
12:08:44.501	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Application Support/Script Editor/Templates/Droplets/Recursive Image File Processing Droplet.app
12:08:44.500	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Application Support/Script Editor/Templates/Droplets/Droplet with Settable Properties.app
12:08:44.499	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Application Support/Script Editor/Templates/Droplets/Recursive File Processing Droplet.app
12:08:44.498	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Image Capture/Support/LegacyDeviceDiscoveryHelpers/AirScanLegacyDiscovery.app
12:08:44.496	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Safari.app
12:08:44.495	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Kandji/Kandji Agent.app
12:08:44.494	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Library/Application Support/Kandji/Kandji Menu/Kandji Menu.app
12:08:44.493	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Red Canary Mac Monitor.app
12:08:44.491	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/The Legend of Pirates Online.app
12:08:44.490	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Suspicious Package.app
12:08:44.489	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Utilities/Kandji Extension Manager.app
12:08:44.487	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Kandji Self Service.app
12:08:44.486	basename	com.apple.basena...	/usr/bin/_	basename /Applications/Visual Studio Code.app
12:08:44.454	grep	com.apple.bzfgrep	/usr/bin/_	grep -v /System
12:08:44.454	mdfind	com.apple.mdfind	/usr/bin/_	mdfind kMDItemContentType == 'com.apple.application-bundle' && kMDItemKind != 'System'
12:08:44.454	xargs	com.apple.xargs	/usr/bin/_	xargs -I % basename %
12:08:44.451	bash	com.apple.bash	/bin/bash	sh -c echo 'Installed Apps: ' >> /Users/foxtrot/735085359/Sysinfo.txt && mdfind "kMDItemContentType == 'com.apple.application-bundle' && kMDItemKind != 'System'"   grep -v '/System'   xargs -I % basename % >> /Users/foxtrot/735085359/Sysinfo.txt



# Emulation

## *Building the threat*

---

### Requirements

1. **Adhoc** signed
2. Calls **xargs** in same proc group
3. Leverages **OSA**

### Game plan

1. Just compile locally!
2. Use something like **popen(...)**
3. Two variations
  - a. API (**NSAppleScript** / **OSAKit**) and
  - b. Command line

```
> ./amos_poc
Executing AppleScript via NSAppleScript API
Dialog displayed successfully.
Output: An example string to xargs!
File created successfully at /tmp/danger.txt
```

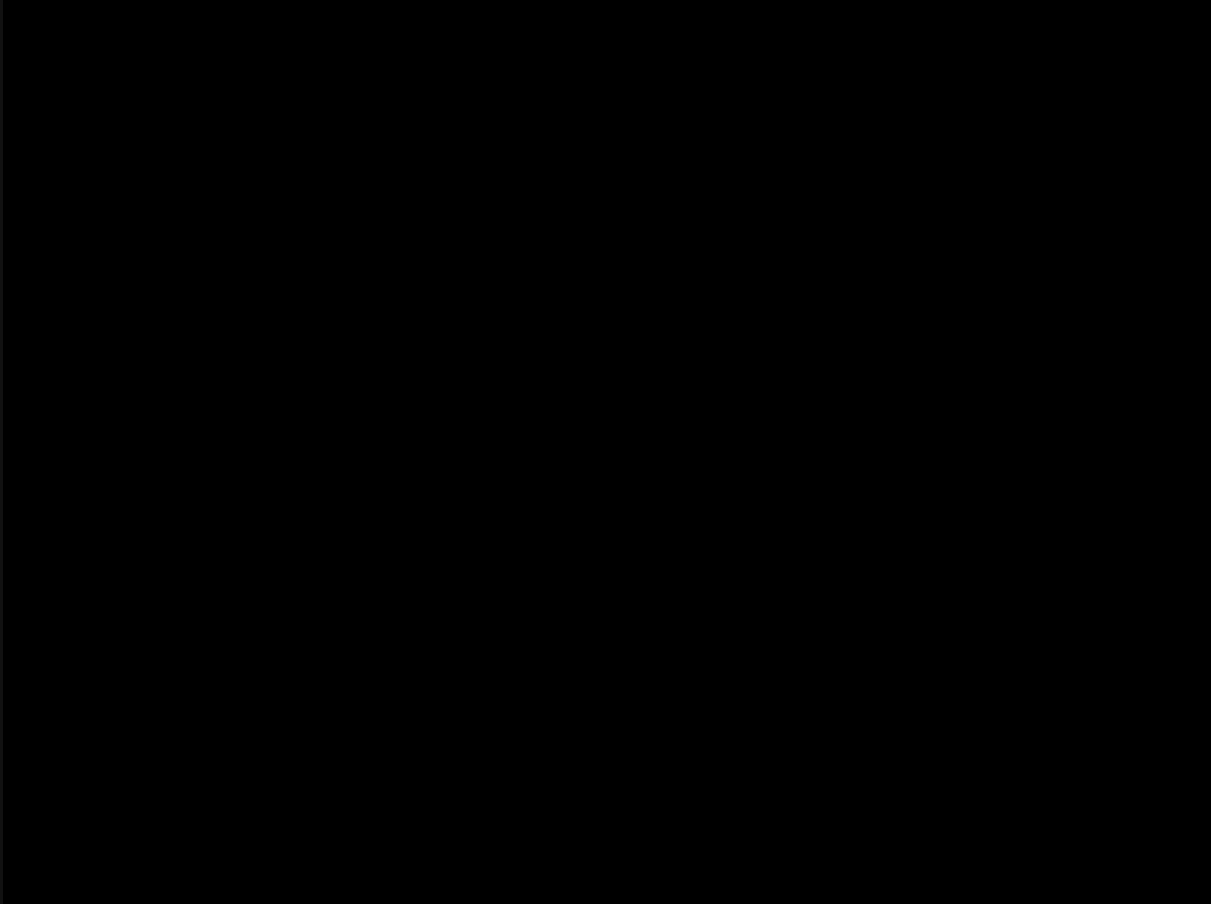


# Demo time

## *The result?*



```
> ./amos_poc  
Executing AppleScript via NSAppleScript API  
Dialog displayed successfully.  
zsh: killed      ./amos_poc
```





# AMOS resiliency!







---

```
foxtrot — ObjectiveDefens < sudo — 80x24
[foxtrot@foxtrots-Virtual-Machine ~ % sudo ObjectiveDefense ]
 Terminated GID: 748
 Detected: AMOS-STEALER on event type: ES_EVENT_TYPE_AUTH_EXEC
```



# Building a detector

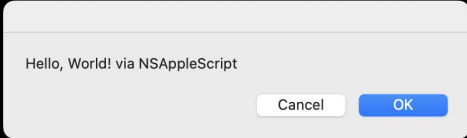
---

- ✓  What data do we have access to?
- ✓  Given a “**threat**” ...
- ✓  What’re the visible end behaviors?
- ✓  Using those behaviors write a “heuristic”
- ✓  Test it
-  Tune it at scale

and lastly...maintain



```
⌵ sudo ./ObjectiveDefense
⌵ sudo ./ObjectiveDefense
⚠ Detected: AMOS-STEALER on event type: ES_EVENT_TYPE_AUTH_EXEC
⚠ Detected: AMOS-STEALER on event type: ES_EVENT_TYPE_AUTH_EXEC
```



```
⌵ ./amos_poc
Executing AppleScript via NSAppleScript API
Dialog displayed successfully.
zsh: killed ./amos_poc
```



---

# Thank you

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