

Introducing the Next Generation of Mac Monitor



Brandon Dalton

Sr. Engineer – Threat Detection

CrowdStrike



Brandon Dalton



- Internals researcher
- Mac Developer
- OBTS v8.0 / OFTW v1.0 presenter
- Technical reviewer
- Lover of history
- @CrowdStrike Sr. Engineer

github.com/Brandon7CC/mac-monitor

What made today possible...

A massive thank you to Matt Graeber and Keith McCammon!

"Without their support Mac Monitor would still be a closed project."





And to CrowdStrike for sponsoring attendance!

Today's Talk



What is Mac Monitor?

Overview of core features.



Operationalizing Endpoint Security

Leveraging Endpoint Security in prod



v2.0 New Features!

What's new for this release?



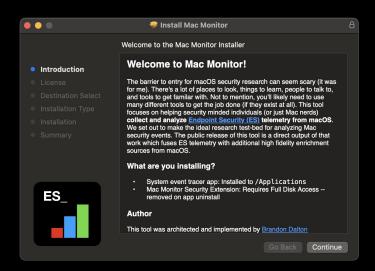
Quick Demo

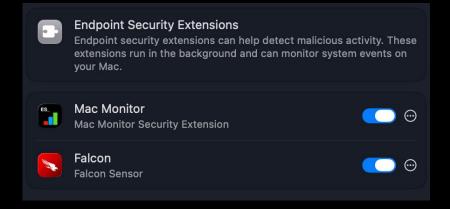
POSIX Atomic Test Harness

What is Mac Monitor?

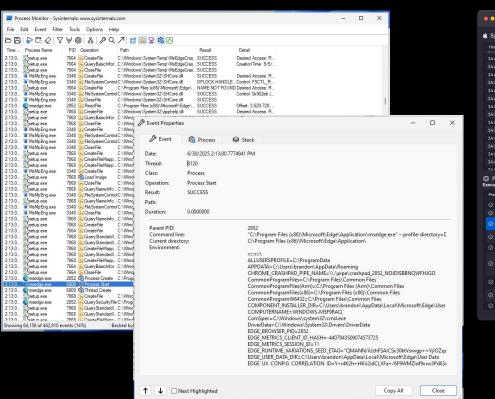
Mac Monitor \$ brew install --cask mac-monitor

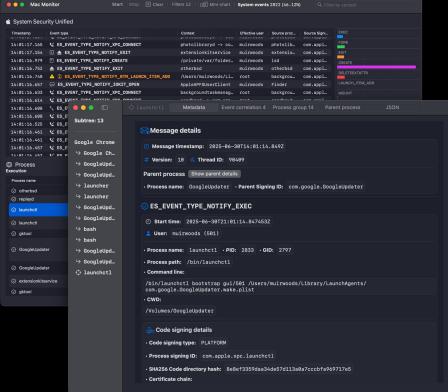
"The missing ProcMon for macOS": Mac Monitor records Endpoint Security events and displays them for analysis.



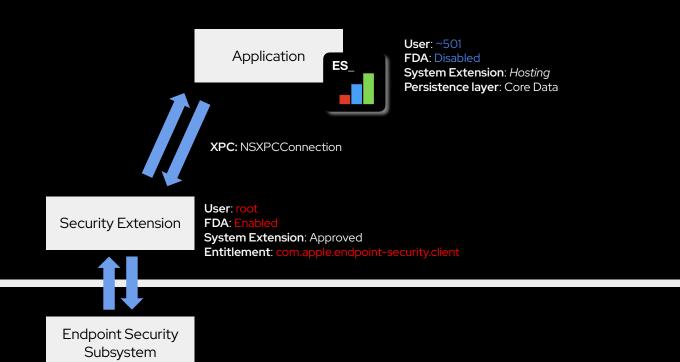


ProcMon and Mac Monitor





Architecture



Userspace

Kernel



Event classes

Process	Interprocess	File system
File metadata	File system mounting	Code signing
Gatekeeper	XProtect	Kernel
Login	MDM	Memory mapping
OpenSSH	Socket	Authorization
Service Management	Link	TCC
Task port	XPC	Directory
File Provider	UID/GID	Clock

The API gives us?

Clients

ES Client

Subscribe and respond to events from ES

Event subscriptions

Event Type

NOTIFY / AUTH

(enumeration)

Message

Metadata, initiating process / thread, and event.

Event

Information about action on the system.

Response

ALLOW / DENY

Allow an event to continue or deny its action.

Muting

Initiating/target path literal

Mute a process literally by the full path.

Per-event

Target specific events.

Initiating/target path prefix

Mute a process by the path prefix.

Audit Token

Mute a process by its audit token.

Inversion

Suppress events not matching a path.

Dealing with noise (volume)

Muting

Initiating/target path literal

Mute a process literally by the full path.

Initiating/target path prefix

Mute a process by the path prefix.

Audit Token

Mute a process by its audit token.

Per-event

Target specific events.

Inversion

Suppress events not matching a path.

let pathMute: es_return_t = es_mute_path(_:_:_:)
let pathEventsMute: es_return_t = es_mute_path_events(_:_:_:_:)

ESClient.h ESTypes.h

Enrichment?

Example: API vs. *ESLogger*

In many cases, ES events, are not ready to go out of the box for threat detection.

- What's the plist contents?
- What's item_type=4?
- What's fdtype=1?
- What's cs_validation_category=1?
- If the process File Quarantine-aware?
- What are the code signing certs?

```
"btm_launch_item_add": {
    "item": {
        "legacy": false,
        "uid": 501,
        "managed": false,
        "app_url": "file:///Users/brandon/Downloads/OBTSDaemon.app/",
        "item_url": "Contents/Library/LaunchDaemons/com.obts.daemon.plist",
        "item_type": 4
}
}
```

Why is Enrichment Necessary?



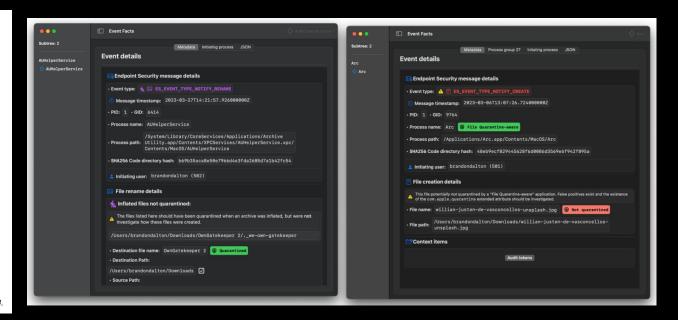
E.g., CVE-2023-27951 and CVE-2023-27943

Finding and reporting a Gatekeeper bypass exploit with help from Mac Monitor

Mac Monitor, our newly released free collection tool, helped us discover a pair of vulnerabilities that we disclosed to Apple

BRANDON DALTON

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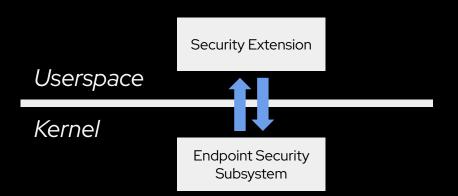


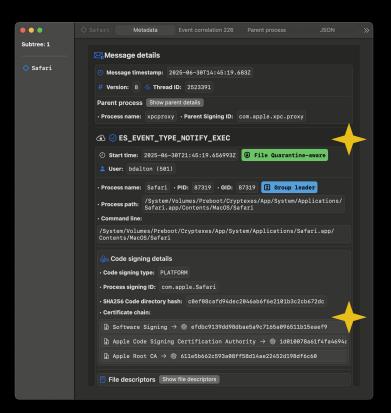
Mac Monitor Core features?

System Extension based

This is <u>not</u> an ESLogger proxy / front

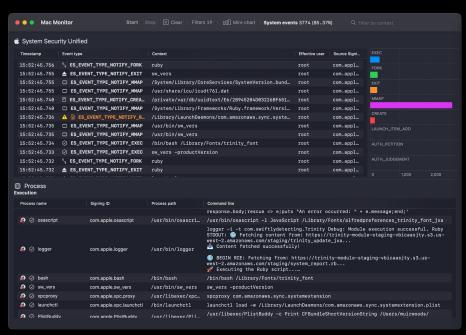
- Enables: tailored event models
 - Process File Quarantine-aware, X509 signing certs, PLIST, etc.
 - PoC enhancements to ES for threat detection







Intuitive UX

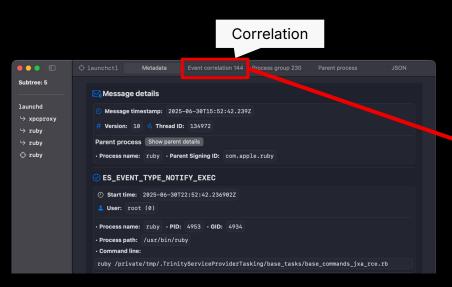


• • • Mac M	onitor Star	Stop Clear Filters 0 DD Mini-chart System events 4421		
System Secu	rity Unified			
Timestamp		Context	Effective user	Source Signing ID
15:52:45.764	☐ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_MMAP	/System/Library/Frameworks/Ruby.framework/Versions/2.6/usr/lib/r		com.apple.logd_helper
15:52:45.764	E ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_RENAME	/private/var/db/uuidtext/E6/28945204D03226BF6517A309F66A3F	root	com.apple.logd_helper
15:52:45.760	▲ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXIT	logger		com.apple.logger
15:52:45.759	☐ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_MMAP	/usr/bin/logger	root	com.apple.logger
15:52:45.759	ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_MMAP	/usr/bin/logger		com.apple.logger
15:52:45.756	⊘ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXEC	logger -i -t com.swiftlydetecting.Trinity Debug: Module executio	root	com.apple.ruby
15:52:45.756	% ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	ruby		com.apple.ruby
15:52:45.755	≜ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXIT	sw_vers	root	com.apple.sw_vers
15:52:45.755	ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_MMAP	/System/Library/CoreServices/SystemVersion.bundle/English.lproj/		com.apple.sw_vers
15:52:45.755	ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_MMAP	/usr/share/icu/icudt761.dat	root	com.apple.sw_vers
15:52:45.764	√ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_XPC_CONNECT	sw_vers -> com.apple.cfprefsd.daemon in SYSTEM		com.apple.sw_vers
15:52:45.740	ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_CREATE	/private/var/db/uuidtext/E6/28945204D03226BF6517A309F66A3F.AuAFX	root	com.apple.logd_helper
15:52:45.740	ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_MMAP	/System/Library/Frameworks/Ruby.framework/Versions/2.6/usr/lib/r	root	com.apple.logd_helper
15:52:45.736	▲ B ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_BTM_LAUNCH_ITEM	ADD /Library/LaunchDaemons/com.amazonaws.sync.systemextension.plist	root	com.apple.backgroundtas
15:52:45.735	ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_MMAP	/usr/bin/sw_vers		com.apple.sw_vers
15:52:45.735	ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_MMAP	/usr/bin/sw_vers	root	com.apple.sw_vers
15:52:45.735	√ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_XPC_CONNECT	backgroundtaskmanagementd -> com.apple.backgroundtaskmanagement	root	com.apple.backgroundtas
15:52:45.734	⊘ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXEC	/bin/bash /Library/Fonts/trinity_font	root	com.apple.xpc.proxy
15:52:45.733	∅ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXEC	sw_vers -productVersion		com.apple.ruby
15:52:45.732	S ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	ruby	root	com.apple.ruby
15:52:45.732	▲ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXIT	ruby		com.apple.ruby
15:52:45.729	≜ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXIT	launchctl		com.apple.xpc.launchctl
15:52:45.729	⊘ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXEC	xpcproxy com.amazonaws.sync.systemextension		com.apple.xpc.launchd
15:52:45.728	% ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	launchd	root	com.apple.xpc.launchd
15:52:45.725	ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_MMAP	/bin/launchctl		com.apple.xpc.launchctl
15:52:45.725	ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_MMAP	/bin/launchctl	root	com.apple.xpc.launchctl
15:52:45.722	⊘ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXEC	launchctl load -w /Library/LaunchDaemons/com.amazonaws.sync.syst		com.apple.ruby
15:52:45.721	S ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_FORK	ruby	root	com.apple.ruby
15:52:45.721	ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_CREATE	/Library/LaunchDaemons/com.amazonaws.sync.systemextension.plist		com.apple.ruby
15:52:45.678	√ ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_XPC_CONNECT	cloudd -> com.apple.tccd.system in SYSTEM	muirwoods	com.apple.cloudd
15:52:45.678	& ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_XPC_CONNECT	cloudd -> com.apple.tccd in USER	muirwoods	com.apple.cloudd
15:52:45.616	SES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_XPC_CONNECT	cloudd -> com.apple.tccd.system in SYSTEM	muirwoods	com.apple.cloudd



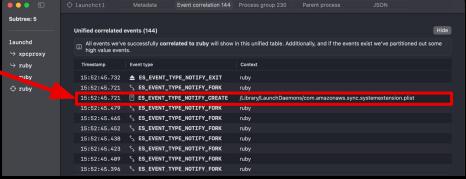
Event correlation

Event correlation (via audit token) – "Which actions did this process take?"



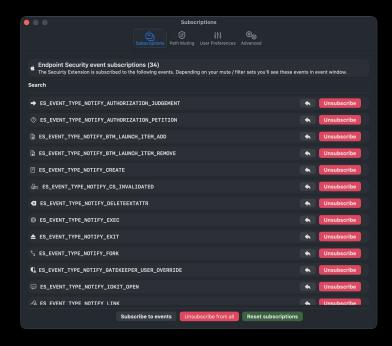
Created:

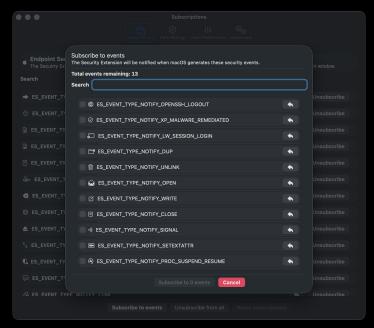
com.amazonaws.sync.systemextension.plist



Dynamic event subscriptions

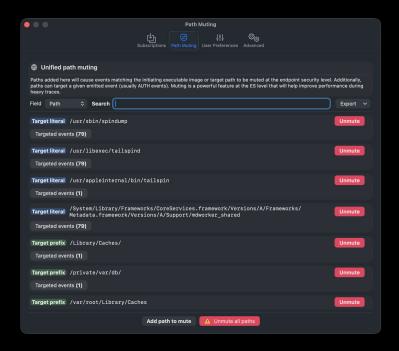
- Dynamic event subscriptions (47 currently) via the UI
 - o Process, interprocess, code signing, memory, login, services, etc.



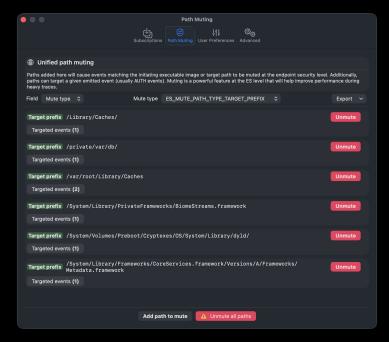


Path muting

- User configurable path muting via the UI
 - Performant noise reduction

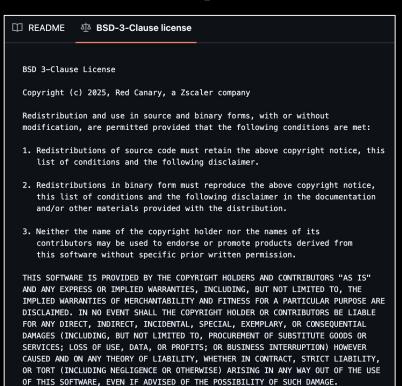




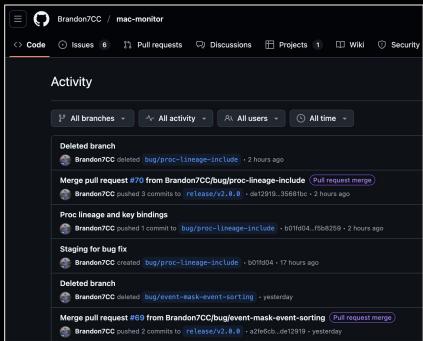




BSD-3 Open Source!









110+ PRs

Expanded key bindings

BSD-3 License

Light / dark mode

ESLogger standardization

Process tree targeting

(New event) Set Mode

Event mask searching

(New event) UIPC Bind

(New event) Gatekeeper User Override

Liquid Glass

Homebrew migration

Mute set searching

Export default Apple mute set

(New event) TCC Modify

Structured event facts UI

Live context search

(New event) UIPC Connect

Auto updates

Event subscriptions searching

Support Matrix

Session grouping

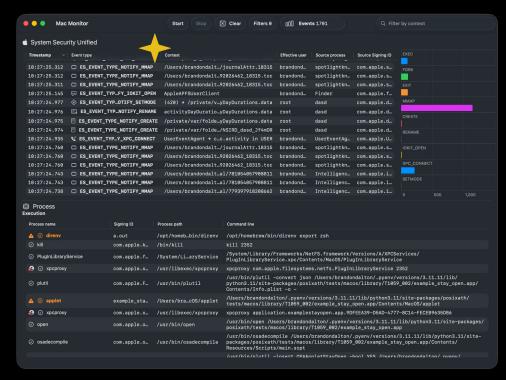
(New event) PTY Grant

Performance (Core Data)

SpriteTree compatibility

UI / UX updates (app wide)



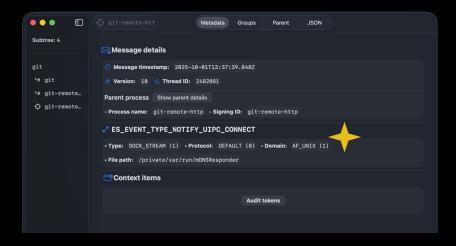


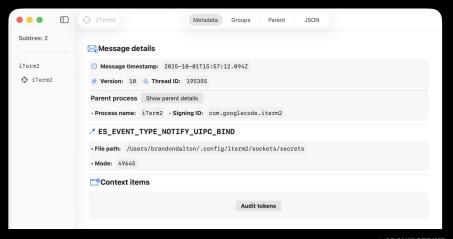


Socket events

- UIPC Connect: a UNIX-domain socket is about to be connected.
- **UIPC Bind**: UNIX-domain socket is about to be bound to a path.

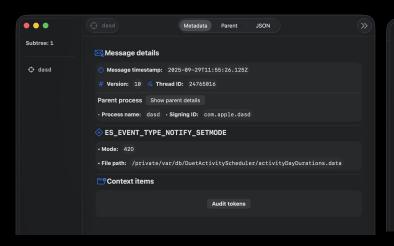
Enables monitoring for anomalous IPC communication pipes (e.g. to mDNSResponder)

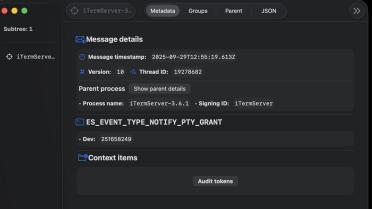




File Metadata events

- Set Mode: File mode modification.
 - Use case: Attackers likely need to modify permissions for execution
- PTY Grant: A pseudoterminal control device is granted
 - **Use case**: PTYs granted outside of expected contexts

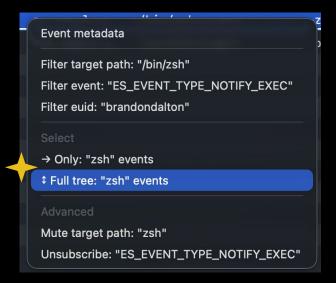


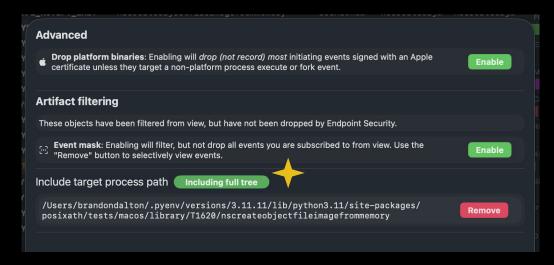




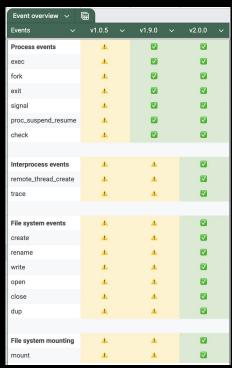
Shoutout to Mitch Datka (@CrowdStrike) for the idea!

Targeting activity





ESLogger standardization 😫

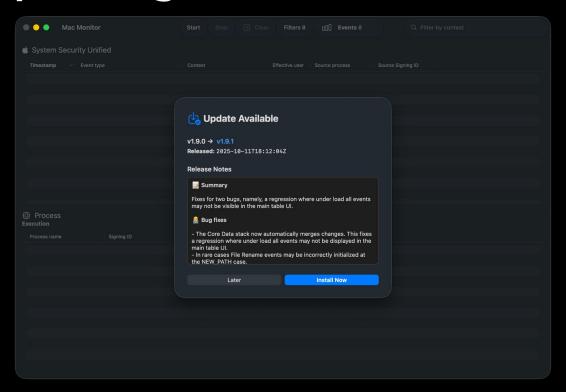


Event overview V					
Events ~	v1.0.5	∨ v1.9.0	~	v2.0.0	~
File metadata events	<u> </u>	A			
deleteextattr	<u>A</u>	A		☑	
setextattr	<u>A</u>	4		☑	
pty_grant	×	×		☑	
setmode	×	×		☑	
Link events	<u>A</u> .	A			
link	<u> </u>	A			
unlink	4	A			
Code signing events	<u> </u>	4			
code_signature_invalida	<u>A</u> .	4		✓	
Kernel events	<u> </u>	A			
iokit_open	<u>A</u> .	A		☑	
Memory events	4	4		☑	
mmap	<u> </u>	4		☑	
Task port events	<u> </u>	A			
get_task	<u> </u>	A			

Event overview V					
Events ~	v1.0.5	∨ v1.9.0	~	v2.0.0	~
Socket events	×	×		☑	
uipc_connect	×	×		☑	
uipc_bind	×	×		☑	
XPC events	<u> </u>	A		☑	
xpc_connect	<u> </u>	A		☑	
Service Management ev	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			
btm_launch_item_add	<u> </u>	4		☑	
btm_launch_item_remov	<u> </u>	A		☑	
Security authorization e	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		☑	
authorization_petition	<u> </u>	A		☑	
authorization_judgemen	<u> </u>	4		☑	
Login events	<u> </u>	4			
login_login	<u> </u>	A		☑	
lw_session_login	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		☑	
lw_session_unlock	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			
OpenSSH events	<u> </u>	<u></u>			
openssh_login	<u> </u>	<u></u>			
openssh_logout	<u></u>	<u> </u>			

Event overview V 🖼							
Events v	v1.0.5 、	v1.9.0	∨ v2.0	0.0 🗸			
MDM events	<u> </u>						
profile_add	A			~			
XProtect events	<u>A</u>	<u> </u>					
xp_malware_detected	4	4		☑			
xp_malware_remedidate	<u>A</u>	4					
TCC events	×			~			
tcc_modify	×						
Gatekeeper events	×						
gatekeeper_useroverride	×						
OpenDirectory events	A	<u>A</u> .		<u>A</u> .			
od_create_user	4	<u></u>		<u>.</u>			
od_group_add	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		<u> </u>			
od_modify_password	<u>A</u>	<u> </u>		<u> </u>			
od_attribute_value_add	<u> </u>	4		<u>.</u>			
od_create_group	4	<u> </u>		<u> </u>			

Auto updating!

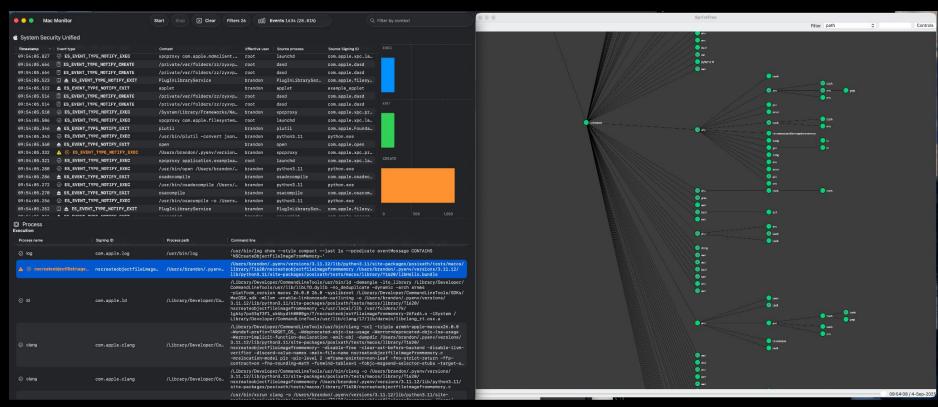


Demo and Release

Correlation w/AppleScript & Reflective Code Loading

\$ pip install posixath

SpriteTree compatibility!





\$ brew install --cask mac-monitor

Brandon Dalton

CrowdStrike