

How safe is your Mac fleet?

MacDevOpsYVR 2025

Mykola Grymalyuk - June 13th, 2025



Intro to MDM.



- Intro to MDM.
- Importance of security.



- Intro to MDM.
- Importance of security.
- Common Security Pitfalls.



- Intro to MDM.
- Importance of security.
- Common Security Pitfalls.
- Poke MDM vendors.



- Intro to MDM.
- Importance of security.
- Common Security Pitfalls.
- Poke MDM vendors.
- Future research for the audience.



\$ '/usr/bin/whoami'

> "Mykola Grymalyuk"

- Lead Security and Software Engineer at RIPEDA Consulting.
- Project lead of OpenCore Legacy Patcher.
- Breaking macOS internals on khronokernel.com.







With great power comes great responsibility

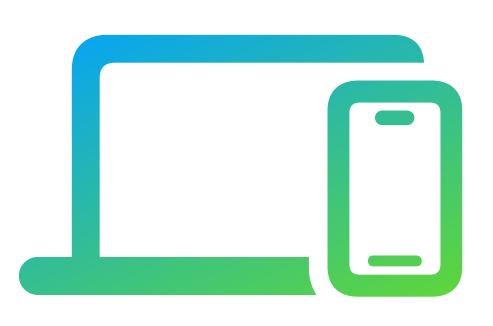
With great power comes great responsibility

And with an MDM server, a ton of ways to break a fleet...

What is an MDM?



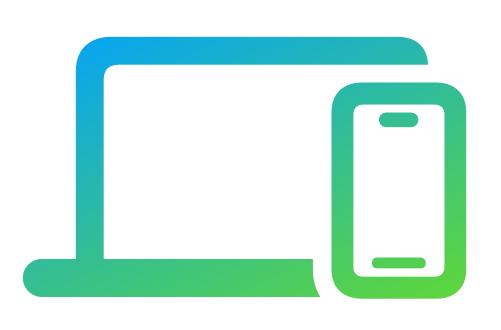
Centralized Device Management



Centralized Device Management



Managed by 3rd party software *



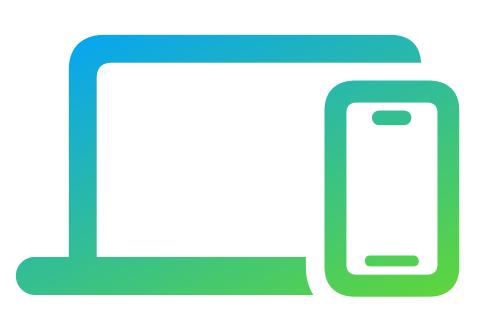
Centralized Device Management



Managed by 3rd party software *



Privileged access



Centralized Device Management



Managed by 3rd party software *



Privileged access

(InstallProfileCommand)



Targeted Attacks



Targeted Attacks

Automated Attacks

"We detected a 101% increase of macOS infostealers between the last two quarters of 2024."

- Unit 42 (Palo Alto Networks)

Targeted Attacks

Automated Attacks







Scripts





Scripts





Profiles



Scripts



Software catalogs



Enrollments





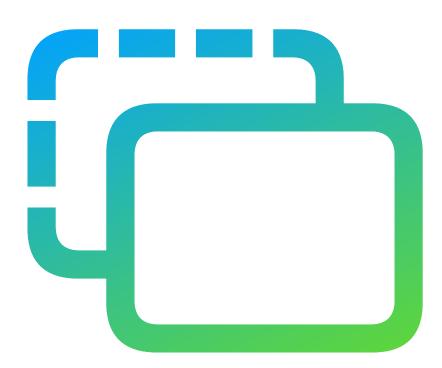




Full Disk Access







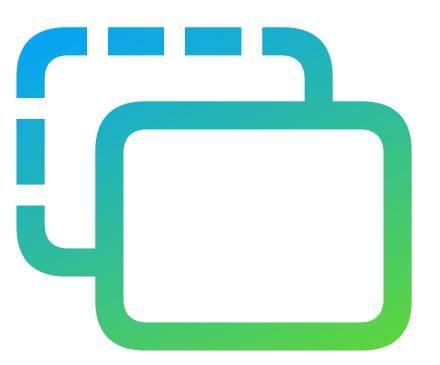
Full Disk Access

Background Tasks









Background Tasks

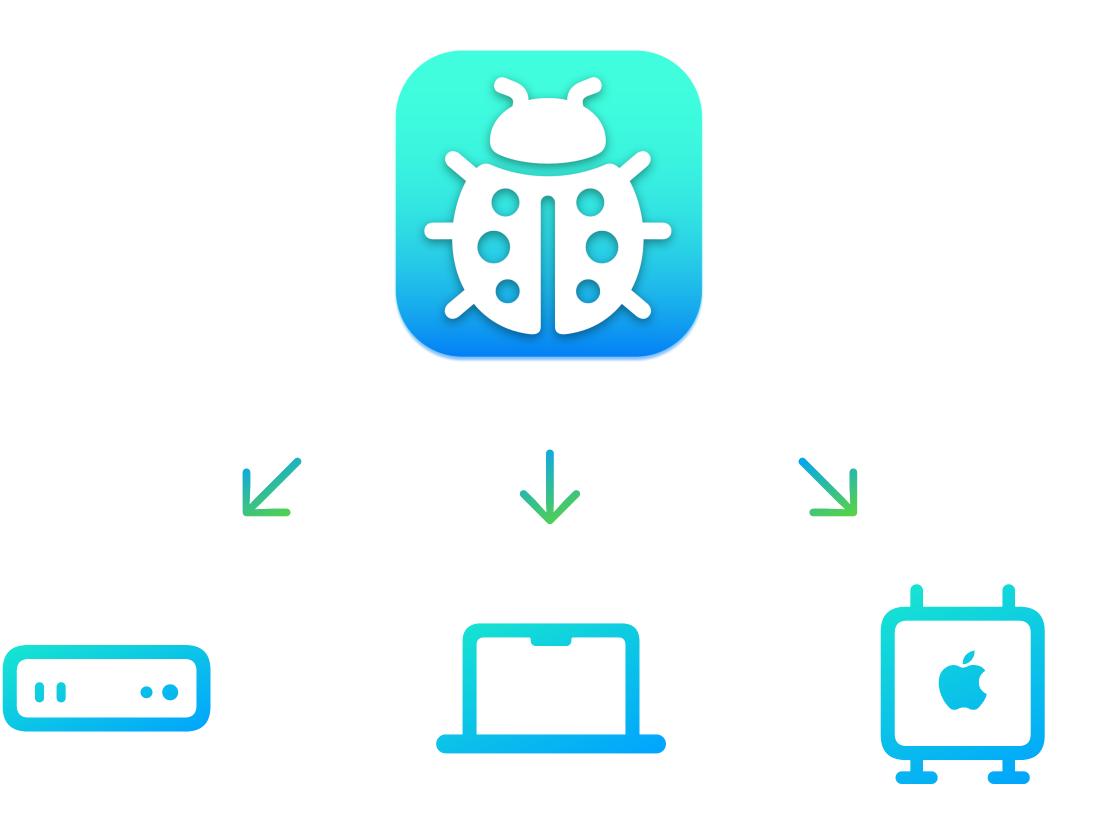


Gatekeeper

En Full Disk Access

En Full Disk Access





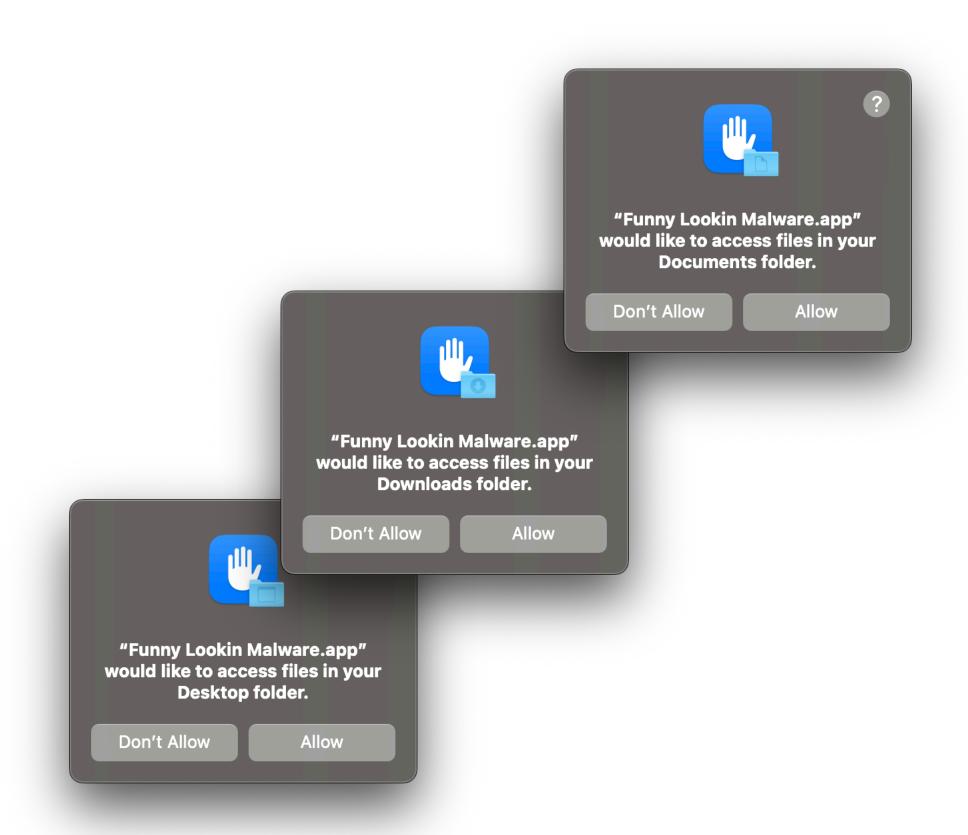








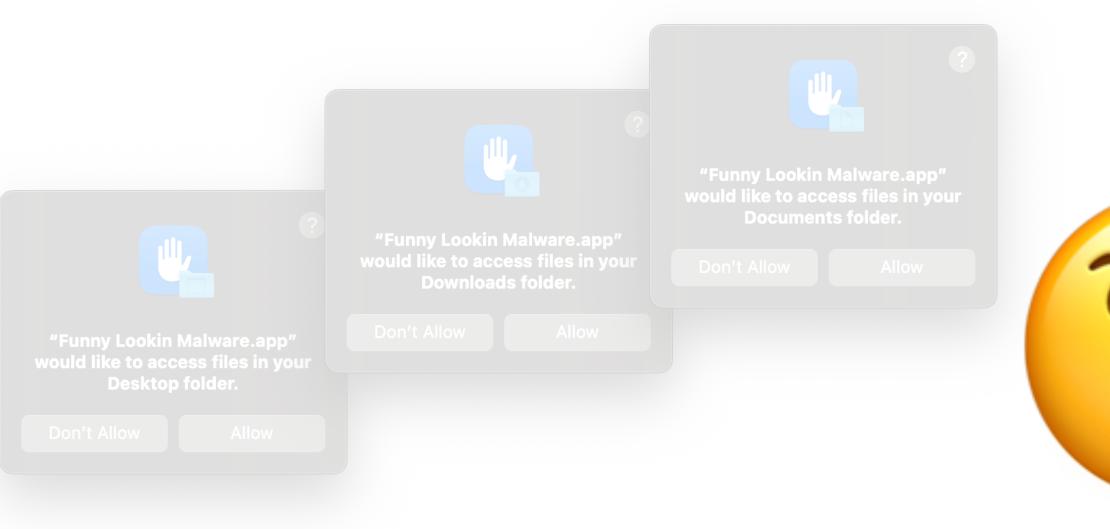






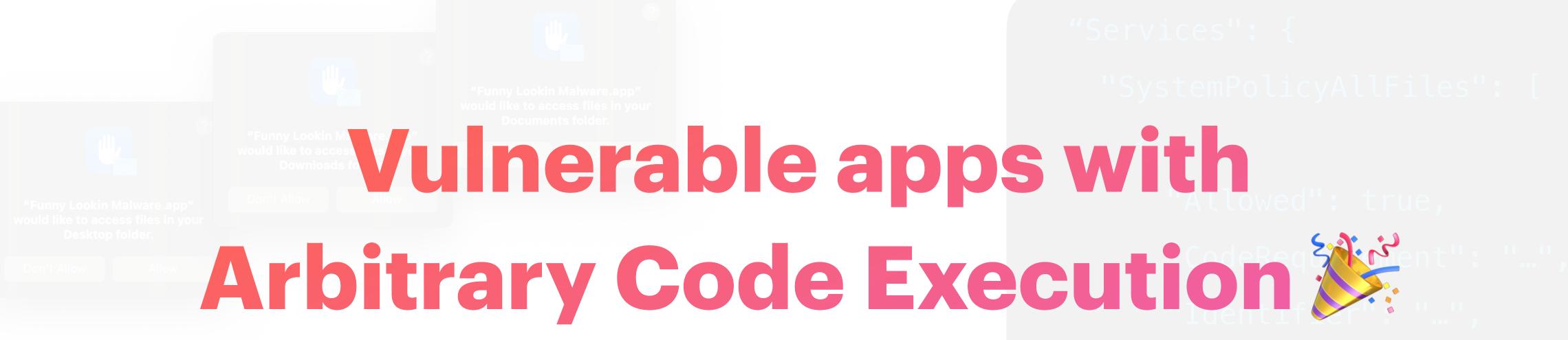


```
"Services": {
 "SystemPolicyAllFiles": [
     "Allowed": true,
     "CodeRequirement": "...",
     "Identifier": "...",
     "IdentifierType": "...",
     "StaticCode": false
```



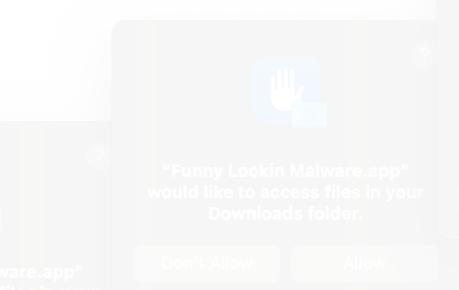








Vulnerable apps with Arbitrary Code Execution









Vulnerable apps with Arbitrary Code Execution



```
/bin/zsh & /bin/bash
```

Vulnerable apps with Arbitrary Code Execution

com.apple.TCC.configuration-profile-policy



```
"Services": {
    "SystemPolicyAllFiles": [
```

/bin/zsh & /bin/bash

"/usr/sbin/systemsetup -setremoteappleevents yes"

```
"StaticCode": false
```





```
"Services": {
 "SystemPolicyAllFiles": [
     "Allowed": true,
     "CodeRequirement": "...",
     "Identifier": "...",
     "IdentifierType": "...",
     "StaticCode": false
```





```
"Services": {
 "SystemPolicyDesktopFolder": [
 "SystemPolicyDownloadsFolder": [
 "SystemPolicyDocumentsFolder": [
```



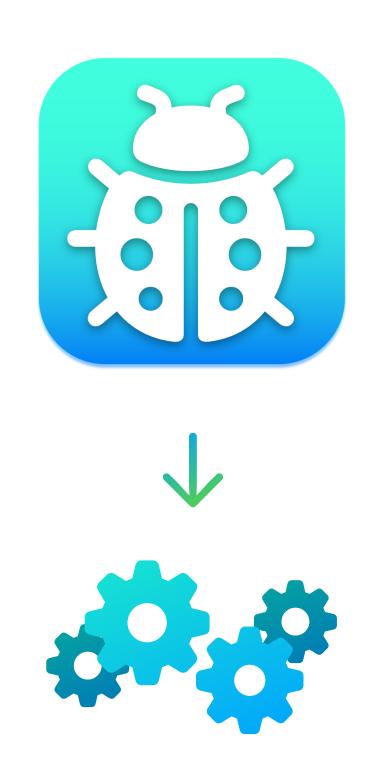


com.apple.TCC.configuration-profile-policy

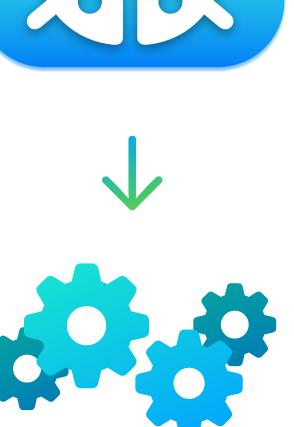
Do you need this? (general apps)

And if so, could you scope accordingly? (shells & tooling)











Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.



Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this



Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.



Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.



Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.



Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.



com.apple.servicemanagement

```
"Rules": [
     {
        "Comment": "Funny Malware",
        "RuleType": "LabelPrefix",
        "RuleValue": "com.malware",
     }
]
```



Managed Login Items Added



















Spoofing identifiers Type": "LabelPrefix", LabelPrefix", L







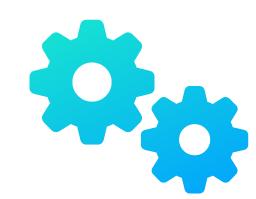
Stand of ing identifie "Rute Type": "Label Prefix", Inc. Stand of the stand of the





















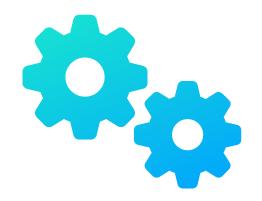


State of the state











Spoofing identifiers

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions



"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.

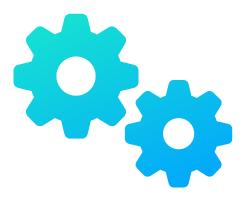


"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.









com.apple.servicemanagement



Spoofing identifiers

RuleType Possible Values:

BundleIdentifier

BundleIdentifierPrefix

Label

LabelPrefix

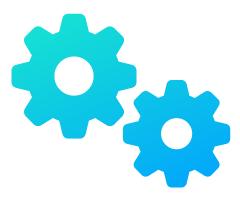
TeamIdentifier

com.apple.servicemanagement











Managed Login Items Added
Your organization added items that can run
in the background. You can view these in
Login Items & Extensions.

Spoofing identifiers

RuleType Possible Values:

BundleIdentifier

BundleIdentifierPrefix

Label

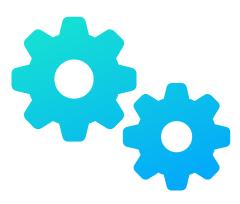
LabelPrefix

TeamIdentifier

com.apple.servicemanagement











Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.



Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.



Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.



com.apple.servicemanagement

```
"Rules": [
     {
        "Comment": "Funny Malware",
        "RuleType": "LabelPrefix",
        "RuleValue": "com.malware",
     }
]
```



Managed Login Items Added



Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.



Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.



Background Items Added

"Funny Lookin Malware" is an item that can run in the background. You can manage this in Login Items & Extensions.



com.apple.servicemanagement



Managed Login Items Added



Arbitrary Code Execution **Q**























com.apple.systempolicy.control

the Gatekeeper





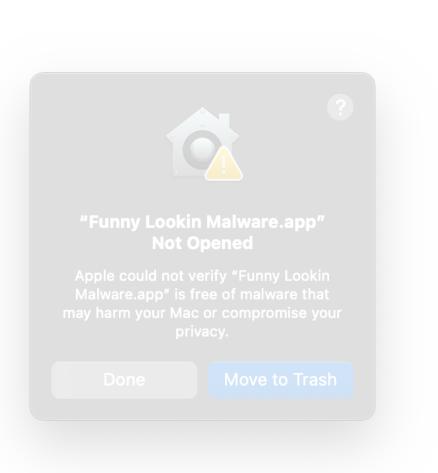


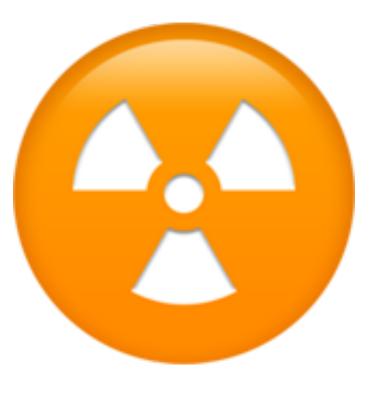
com.apple.systempolicy.control



A LOT OF THINGS





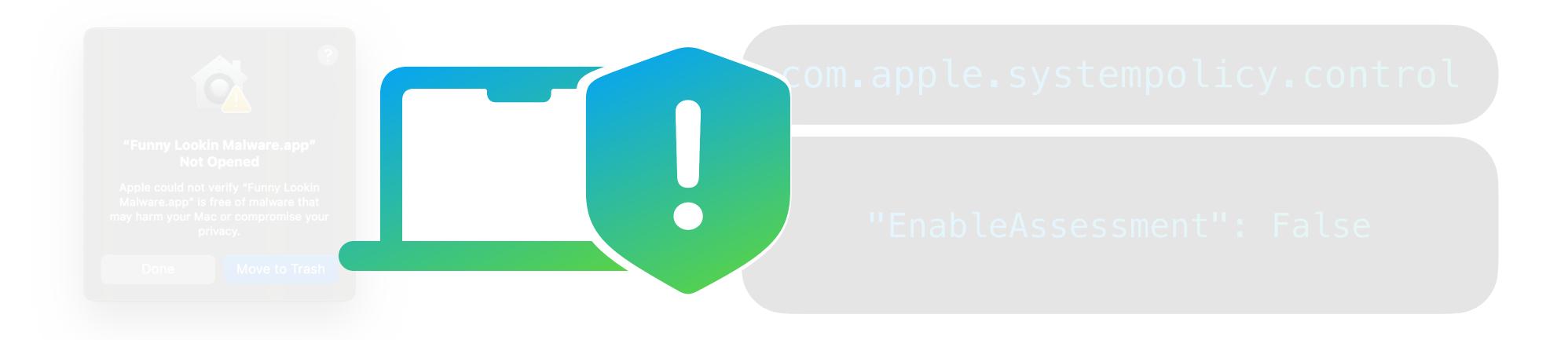


com.apple.systempolicy.control

f) Gatekeeper

A LOT OF THINGS





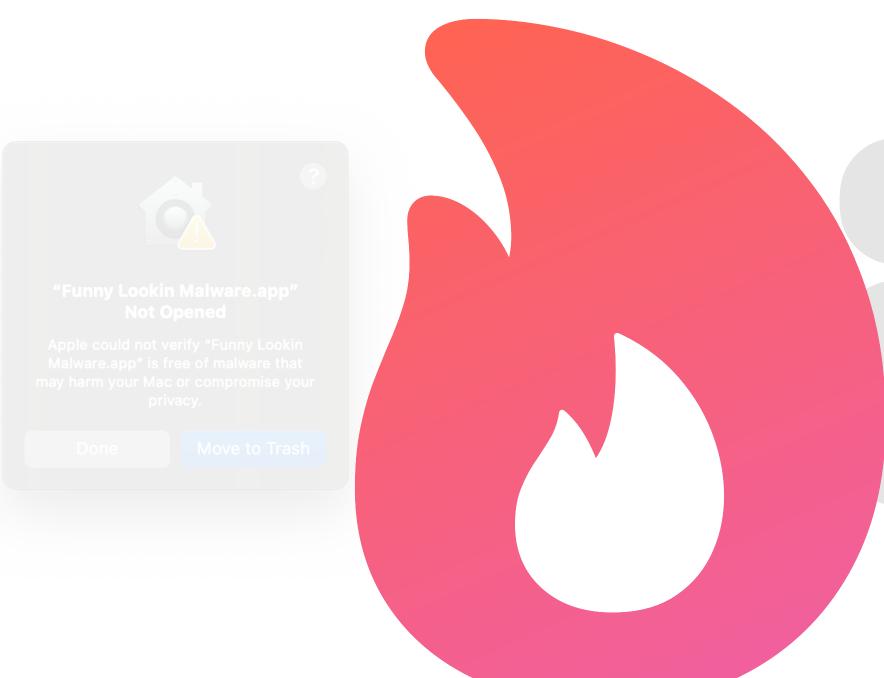




com.apple.systempolicy.control

the Gatekeeper

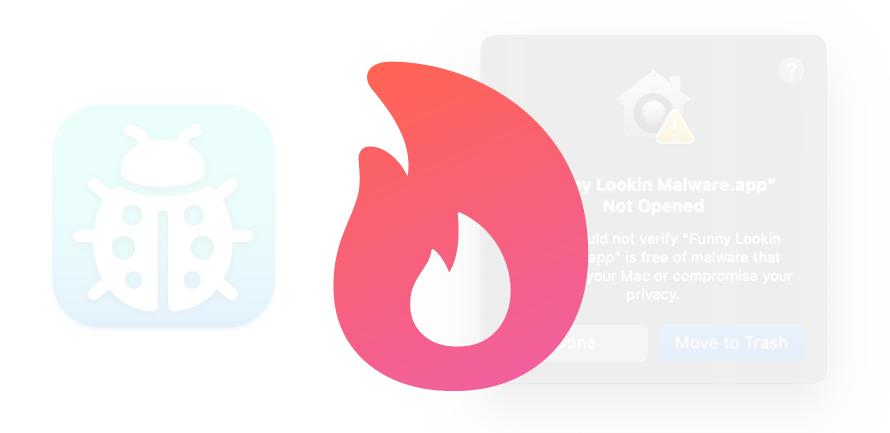


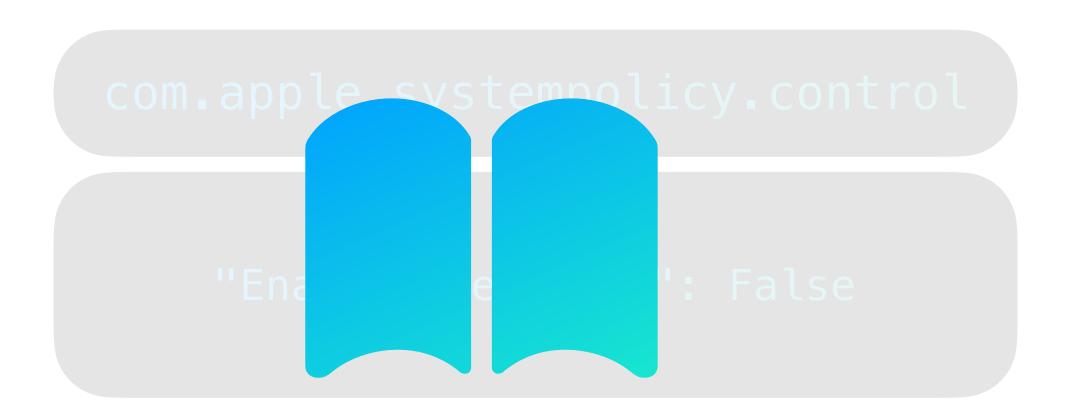


com.apple.systempolicy.control

"EnableAssessment": False

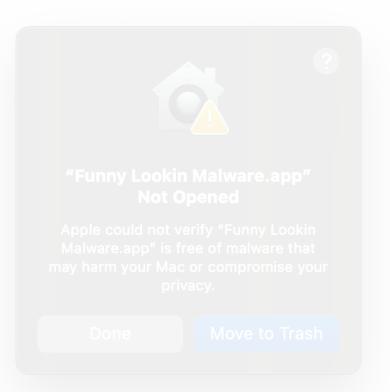
the Gatekeeper





f) Gatekeeper









© Scripts



© Scripts



Unsafe Directories

© Scripts



Unsafe Directories



Dirty environments

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation CVE-2024-53694

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation CVE-2024-53694



QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation CVE-2024-53694



/Library/PrivilegedHelperTools/com.qnap.qsoftwareupdater

1. Tool is given a DMG

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation CVE-2024-53694



- 1. Tool is given a DMG
- 2. Tool mounts DMG

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation CVE-2024-53694



- 1. Tool is given a DMG
- 2. Tool mounts DMG
- 3. Tool verifies signature of PKG inside DMG

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation CVE-2024-53694



- 1. Tool is given a DMG
- 2. Tool mounts DMG
- 3. Tool verifies signature of PKG inside DMG
- 4. Tool copies PKG inside DMG to a working dir

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation CVE-2024-53694



- 1. Tool is given a DMG
- 2. Tool mounts DMG
- 3. Tool verifies signature of PKG inside DMG
- 4. Tool copies PKG inside DMG to a working dir
- 5. Tool installs PKG

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation CVE-2024-53694



/Library/PrivilegedHelp/



m.qnap.qsoftwareupdater

- 1. Tool is given a Dro
- 2. Tool mounts DMG
- 3. Tool verifies signature of PKG inside DMC
- 4. Tool copies PKG inside DMG to a working dir
- 5. Tool installs PKG

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation CVE-2024-53694



- 1. Tool is given a DMG
- 2. Tool mounts DMG
- 3. Tool verifies signature of PKG inside DMG
- 4. Tool copies PKG inside DMG to a working dir
- 5. Tool installs PKG

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation

```
#!/bin/zsh
# Mount DMG file
hdiutil attach Funny.dmg
# Copy PKG to /tmp
cp /Volumes/Funny/Funny.pkg /tmp/Funny.pkg
# Install the PKG
installer -pkg /tmp/Funny.pkg -target /
```

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation

```
#!/bin/zsh
# Mount DMG file
hdiutil attach Funny.dmg
# Copy PKG to /tmp
cp /Volumes/Funny/Funny.pkg /tmp/Funny.pkg
  Install the PKG
installer -pkg /tmp/Funny.pkg -target /
```

anan asoftwareundatei

```
← Anyone can write to it
```

PKG inside DMG

to a working dir

← Installed with root privileges

```
"/bin/mv" and "/bin/cp" keep the original
                   file owner if it exists at the destination.
# Mount DMG file
hdiutil attach Fu
                          the actual PKG with malware.
# Copy PKG to /tr
cp /Volumes/Funny
```

Therefore place a dummy file, then replace

```
write to it
```

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation

```
#!/bin/zsh
# Mount DMG file
hdiutil attach Funny.dmg
# Copy PKG to /tmp
cp /Volumes/Funny/Funny.pkg /tmp/Funny.pkg
# Install the PKG
installer -pkg /tmp/Funny.pkg -target /
```

QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation

```
#!/bin/zsh

# Mount DMG file

/Lib hdiutil attach Funny.dmg
```

Copy PKG to /tmp
cp /Volumes/Funny/Funny.pkg /tmp/Funny.pkg

```
# Install the PKG

installer -pkg /tmp/Funny.pkg -target /
```

ter

← Change to a directory you control and know is empty.

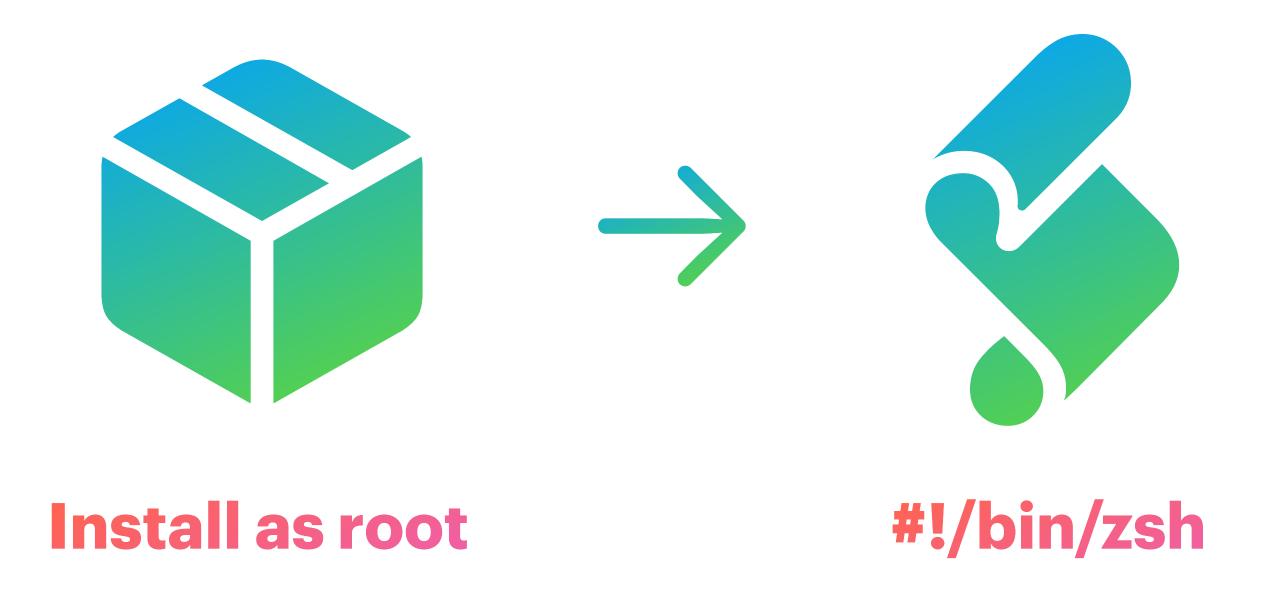
QNAP Updater Privilege Escalation

```
#!/bin/zsh
# Mount DMG file
hdiutil attach Funny.dmg
# Copy PKG to root-owned tmp dir
dir=$(mktemp -d)
cp /Volumes/Funny/Funny.pkg $dir/Funny.pkg
# Install the PKG
installer -pkg $dir/Funny.pkg -target /
```

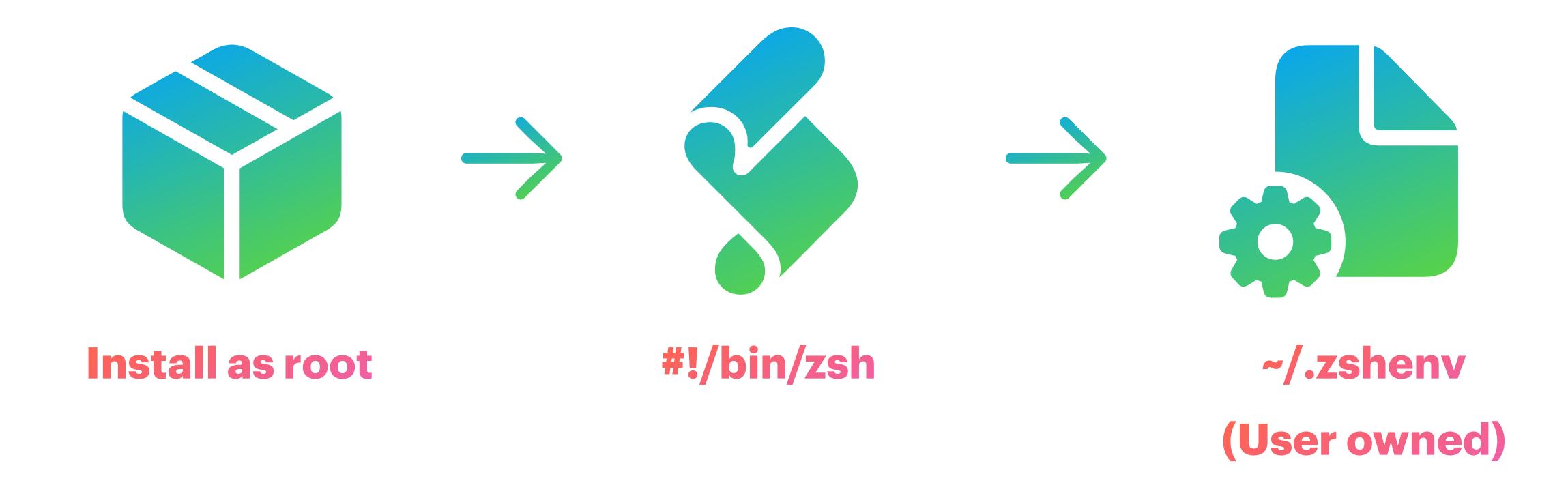
macOS PackageKit Privilege Escalation CVE-2024-27822



Install as root







macOS PackageKit Privilege Escalation CVE-2024-27822

Free privilege escalation









Install as root

#!/bin/zsh

~/.zshenv

(User owned)

```
!#/bin/zsh
!#/bin/bash
!#/bin/sh
```

```
!#/bin/zsh → !#/bin/zsh --no-rcs
!#/bin/bash → !#/bin/bash --noprofile --norc
!#/bin/sh → !#/bin/sh (no change needed)
```

```
$ where mkdir
/bin/mkdir
```

```
mkdir → /bin/mkdir

codesign → /usr/bin/codesign

mdmclient → /usr/libexec/mdmclient
```

```
#!/bin/zsh
# Mount DMG file
hdiutil attach Funny.dmg
# Copy PKG to root-owned tmp dir
dir=$(mktemp -d)
cp /Volumes/Funny/Funny.pkg $dir/Funny.pkg
# Install the PKG
installer -pkg $dir/Funny.pkg -target /
```

```
#!/bin/zsh --no-rcs
# Mount DMG file
/usr/bin/hdiutil attach Funny.dmg
# Copy PKG to root-owned tmp dir
dir=$(/usr/bin/mktemp -d)
/bin/cp /Volumes/Funny/Funny.pkg $dir/Funny.pkg
# Install the PKG
/usr/sbin/installer -pkg $dir/Funny.pkg -target /
```

Software Catalogs

Software Catalogs

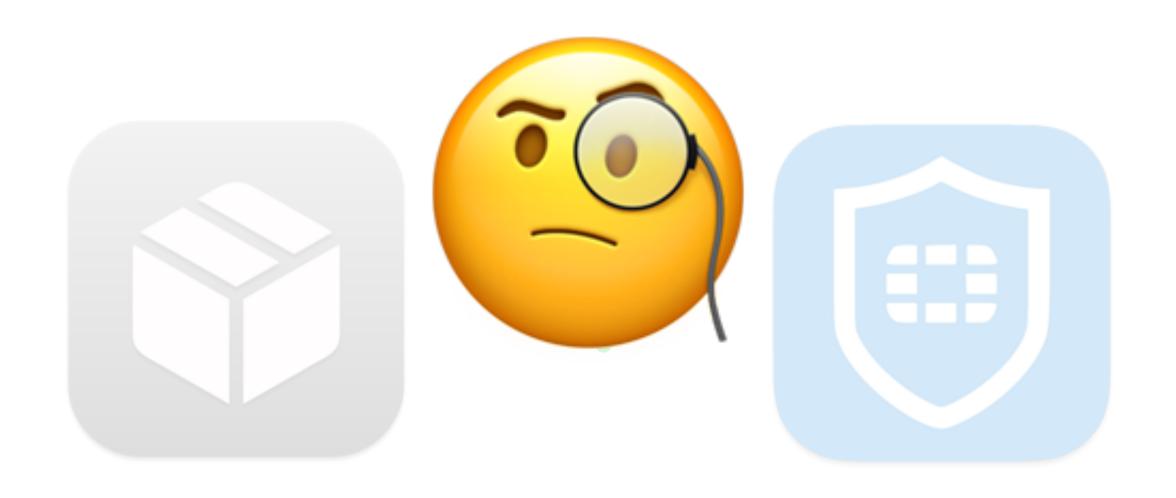
ESoftware Catalogs



Outdated applications



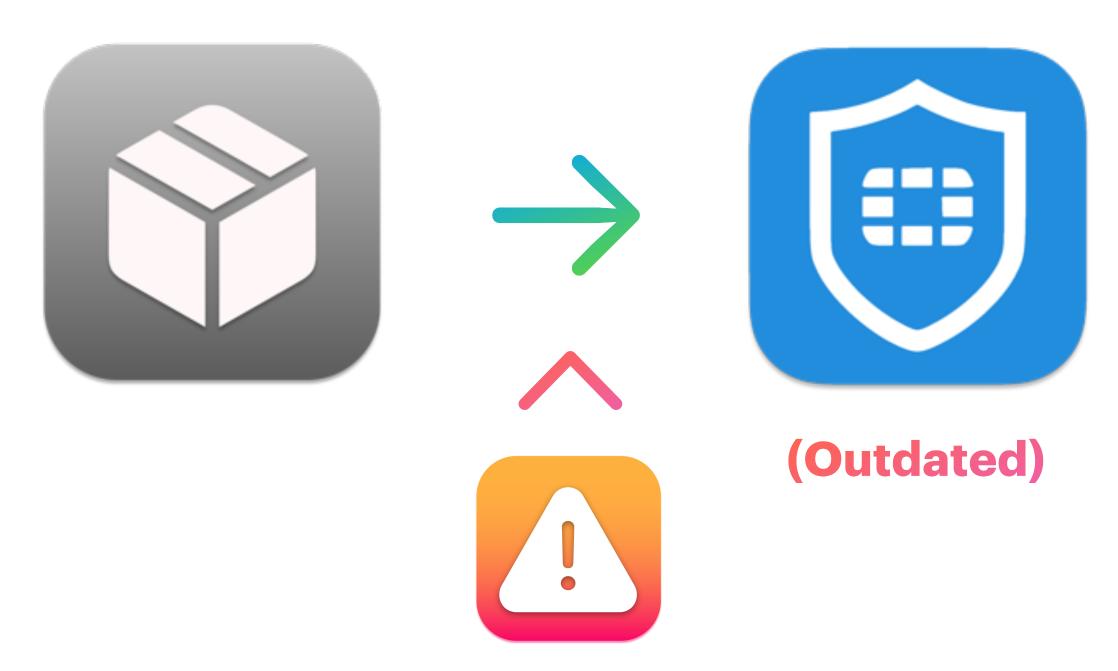








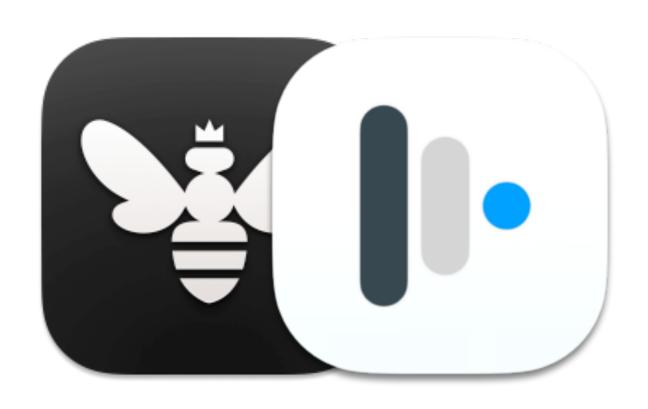
FortiClient Privilege Escalation CVE-2025-46774



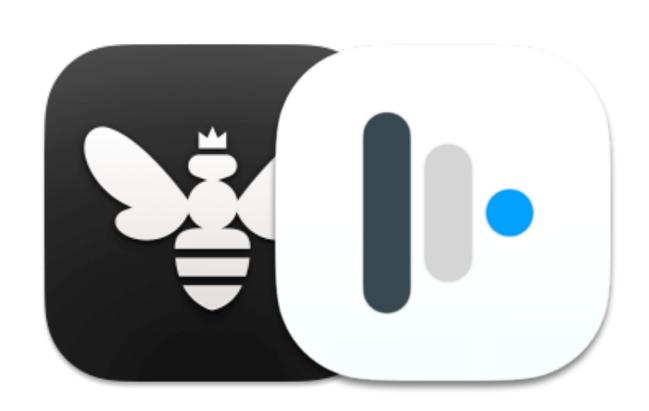
Privilege escalation through installation







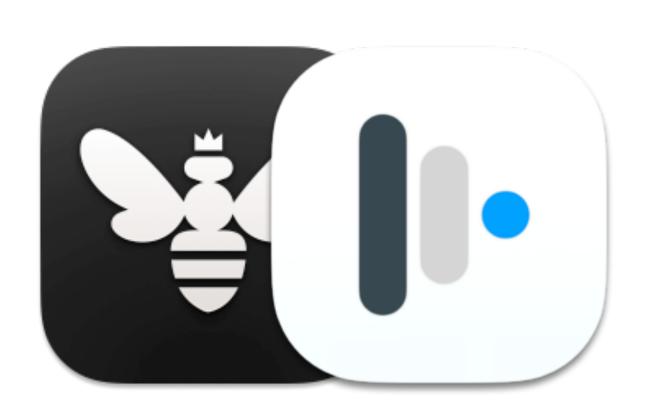
MDM provided apps



MDM provided apps



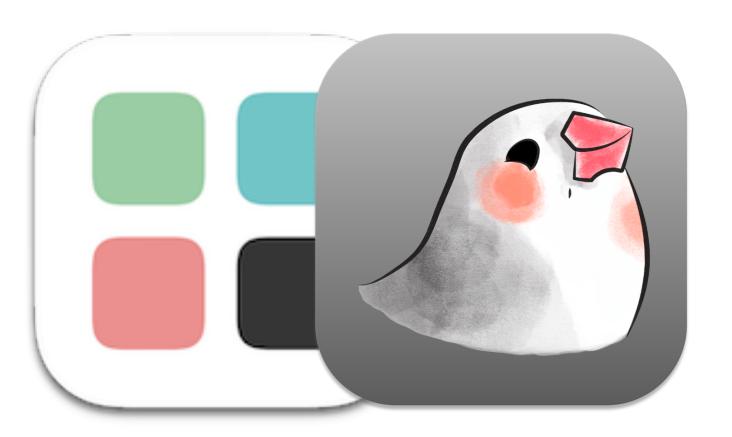
Munki + AutoPkg



MDM provided apps



Munki + AutoPkg



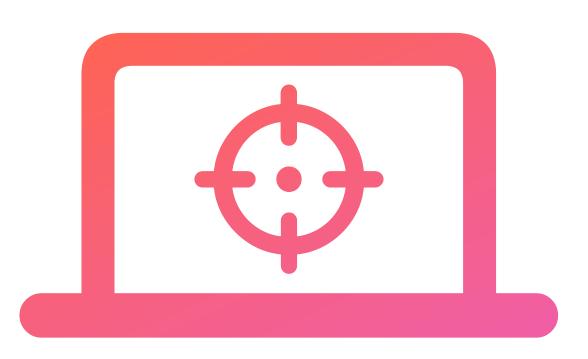
Root3 App Catalog / Alectrona Patch

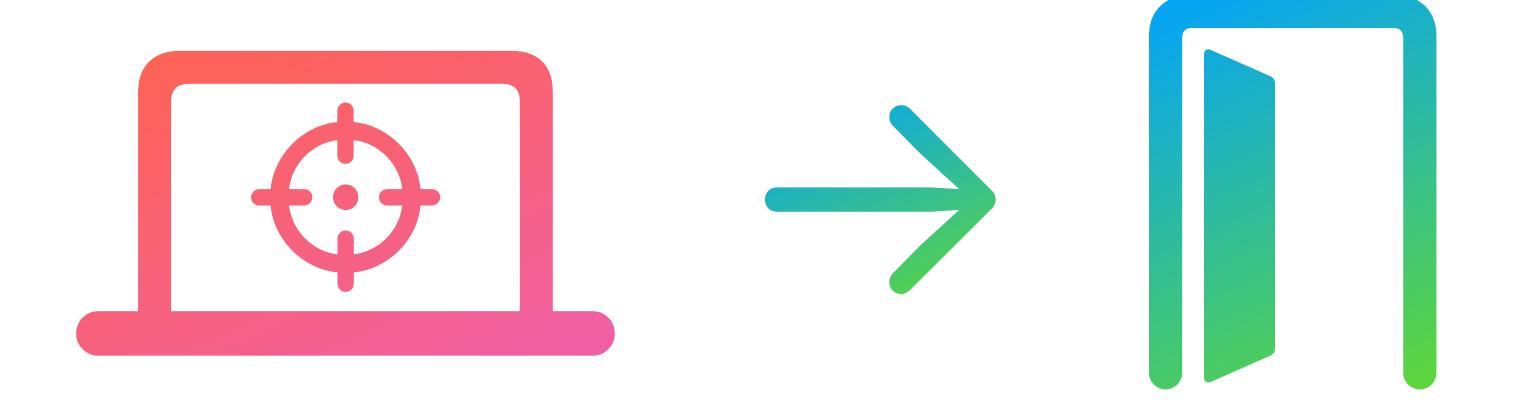
Enrollments

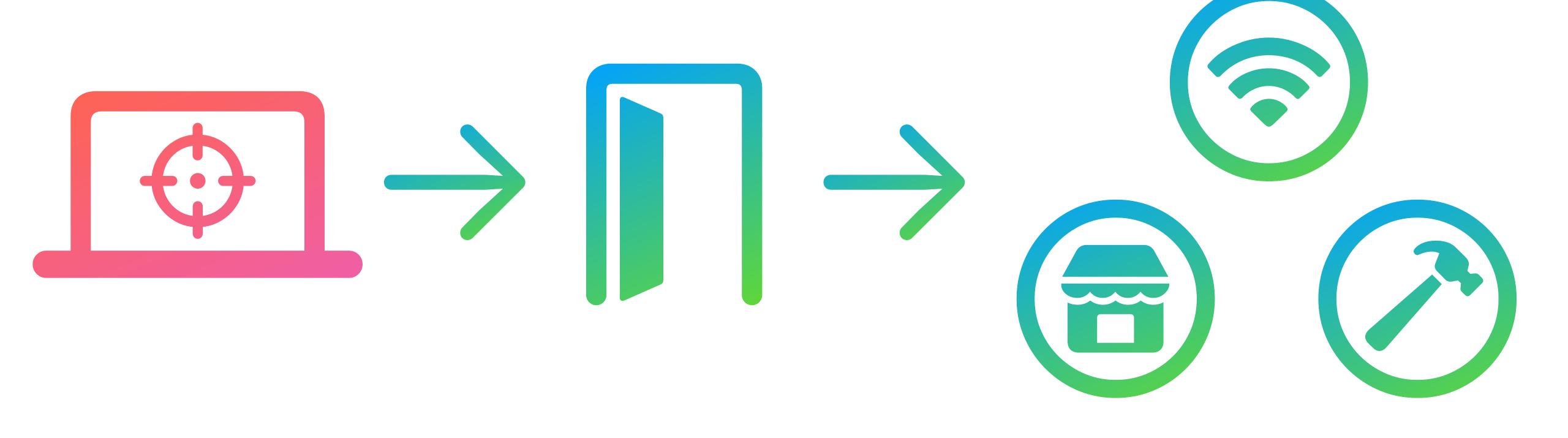


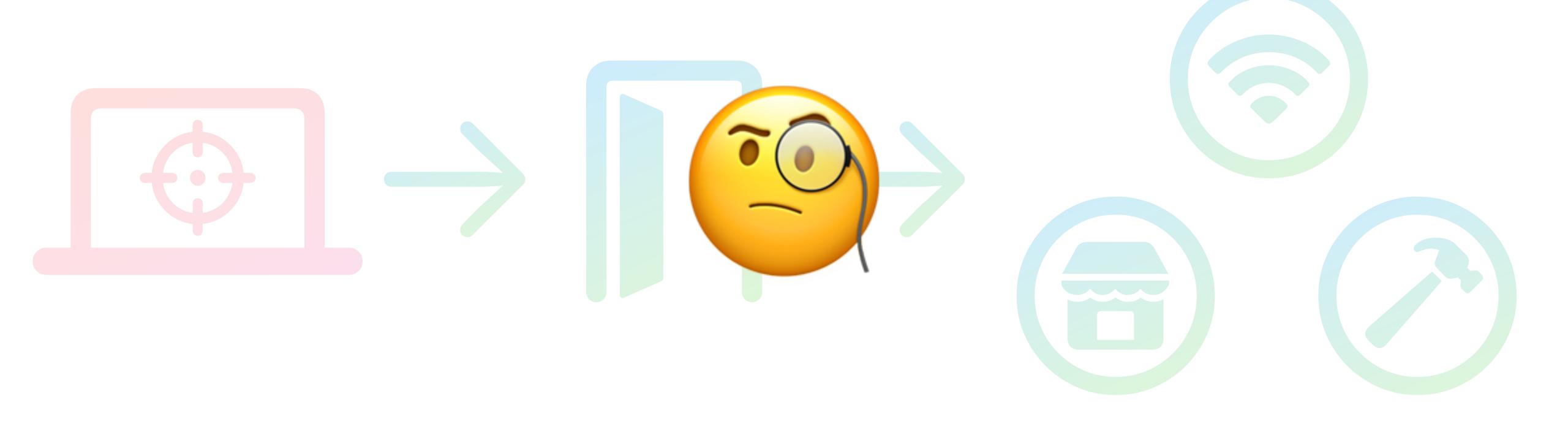


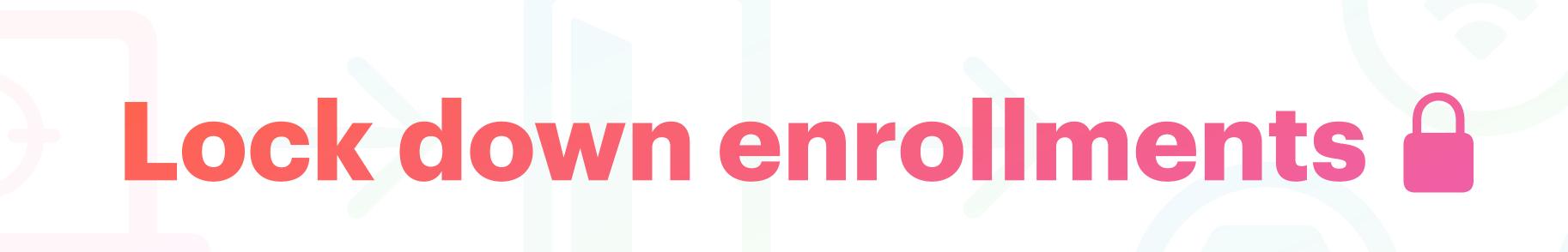












Authentication

Quarantine





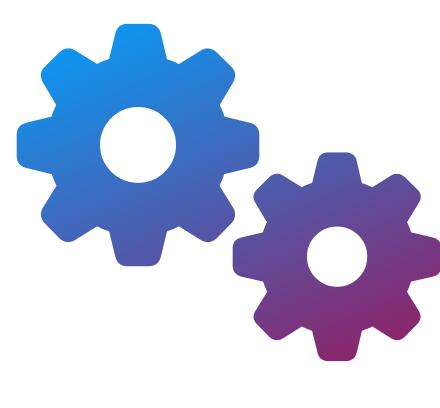








Project Indago

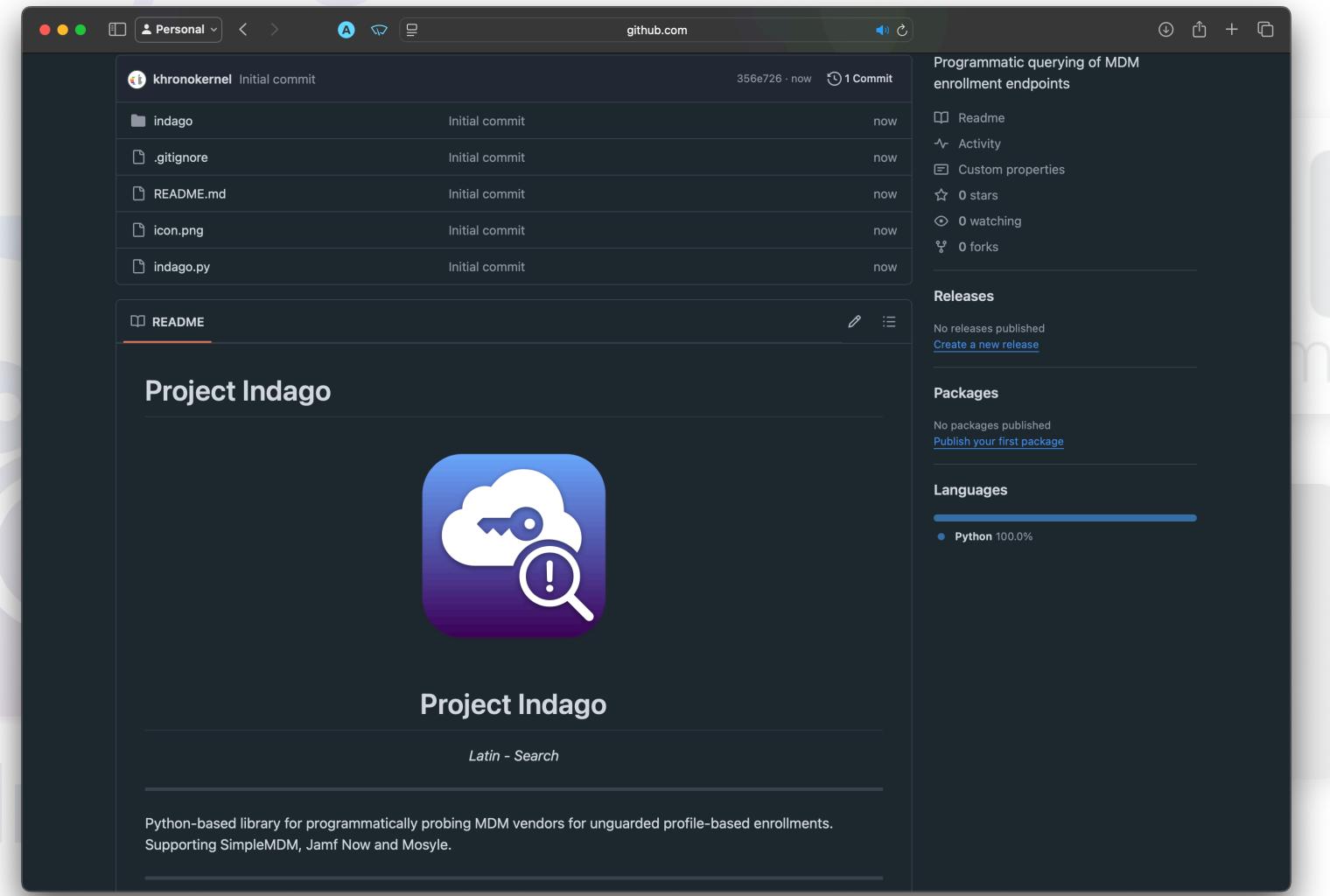


01101001 01101110 01100100 01100001 01100111 01101111



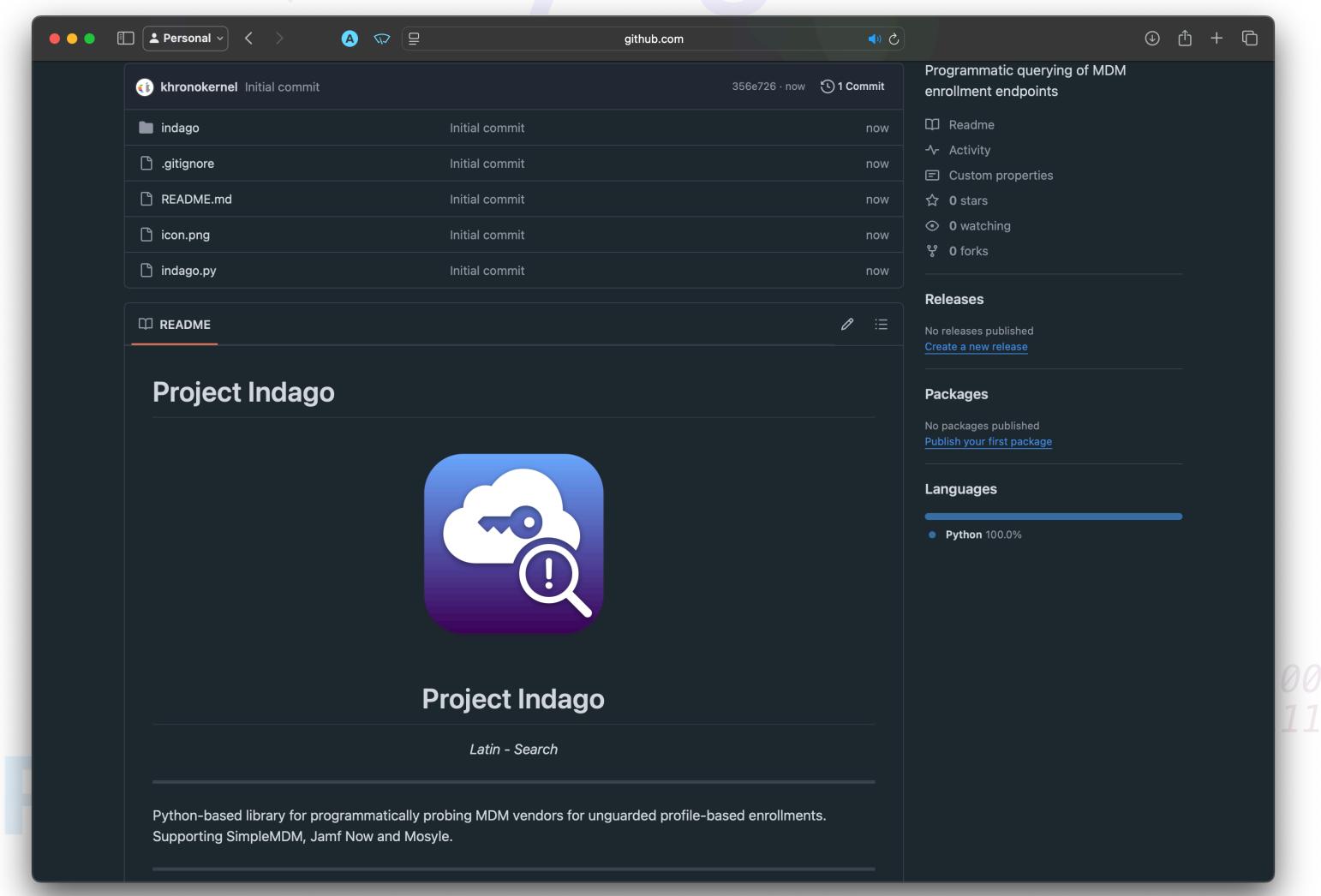






osyle









https://a.simplemdm.com/enroll/?c=xxxxxxxx



https://a.simplemdm.com/enroll/?c=xxxxxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 8 characters
- Integers only



https://a.simplemdm.com/enroll/?c=xxxxxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 8 characters
- Integers only

Samples:

- 94756678
- 43409620
- **13012603**
- **41895752**



https://a.simplemdm.com/enroll/?c=xxxxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 8 characters
- Integers only

Samples:

- 94756678
- 43409620
- **13012603**
- 41895752

Authentication methods:

- None
- SAML



Querying SimpleMDM

https://a.simplemdm.com/enroll/?c=xxxxxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 8 characters
- Integers only

Samples:

- 94756678
- 43409620
- **13012603**
- **41895752**

Authentication methods:

- None
- SAML

Recommendations:

- URL complexity
- Challenges
- Passcode



Querying SimpleMDM

https://a.simplemdm.com/enroll/?c=xxxxxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 8 characters
- Integers only

Samples:

- 94756678
- 43409620
- **13012603**
- **41895752**

Authentication methods:

- None
- -SAML

Recommendations:

- URL complexity
- Challenges
- Passcode

Notified September 2024



Querying SimpleMDM

https://a.simplemdm.com/enroll/?c=xxxxxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 8 characters
- Integers only

Samples:

URL complexity!

- **13012603**
- 41895752

Authentication methods:

- None
- SAMI

https://a.simplemdm.com/enroll/?

Recommendations:

- URL complexity
- Challenges
- Passcode

Notified ontomber 20



Existing enrollments

- ers on Still vulnerable and comp



https://go.jamfnow.com/xxxxxx



https://go.jamfnow.com/xxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 6 characters
- Integers, upper and lower case letters



https://go.jamfnow.com/xxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 6 characters
- Integers, upper and lower case letters

Samples:

- p0PgnX
- ZddV5k
- 2BE0Ca
- u009jt



https://go.jamfnow.com/xxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 6 characters
- Integers, upper and lower case letters

Samples:

- p0PgnX
- ZddV5k
- 2BE0Ca
- u009jt

Authentication method:

- Passcode (required)



https://go.jamfnow.com/xxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 6 characters
- Integers, upper and lower case letters

Samples:

- p0PgnX
- ZddV5k
- 2BE0Ca
- u009jt

Authentication method:

- Passcode (required)

Recommendations:

- URL complexity
- Challenges



https://go.jamfnow.com/xxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 6 characters
- Integers, upper and lower case letters

Samples:

- p0PgnX
- ZddV5k
- 2BE0Ca
- u009jt

Authentication method:

- Passcode (required)

Recommendations:

- URL complexity
- Challenges

Notified January 2025



https://go.jamfnow.com/xxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 6 characters
- Integers, upper and lower case letters



Authentication method:

- Passcode (required

Recommendations:

- URL complexity
- Challenges

Notified January 2025



https://join.mosyle.com/xxxxxx



https://join.mosyle.com/xxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 6 characters
- Integers and uppercase letters



https://join.mosyle.com/xxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 6 characters
- Integers and uppercase letters

Samples:

- 6WK4K9
- TU7U33
- KQ9PMT
- VPT71Z



https://join.mosyle.com/xxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 6 characters
- Integers and uppercase letters

Samples:

- 6WK4K9
- TU7U33
- KQ9PMT
- VPT71Z

Authentication methods:

- None
- SAML
- Pre-approved devices



https://join.mosyle.com/xxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 6 characters
- Integers and uppercase letters

Samples:

- 6WK4K9
- TU7U33
- KQ9PMT
- VPT71Z

Authentication methods:

- None
- SAML
- Pre-approved devices

Recommendations:

- URL complexity
- Challenges
- Disable codes for new groups



https://join.mosyle.com/xxxxxx

Identifier format:

- 6 characters
- Integers and uppercase letters

Samples:

- 6WK4K9
- TU7U33
- KQ9PMT
- VPT71Z

Authentication methods:

- None
- -SAML
- Pre-approved devices

Recommendations:

- URL complexity
- Challenges
- Disable codes for new groups

Notified September 2024



- 6 char Disable unused enrollments

after 90 days



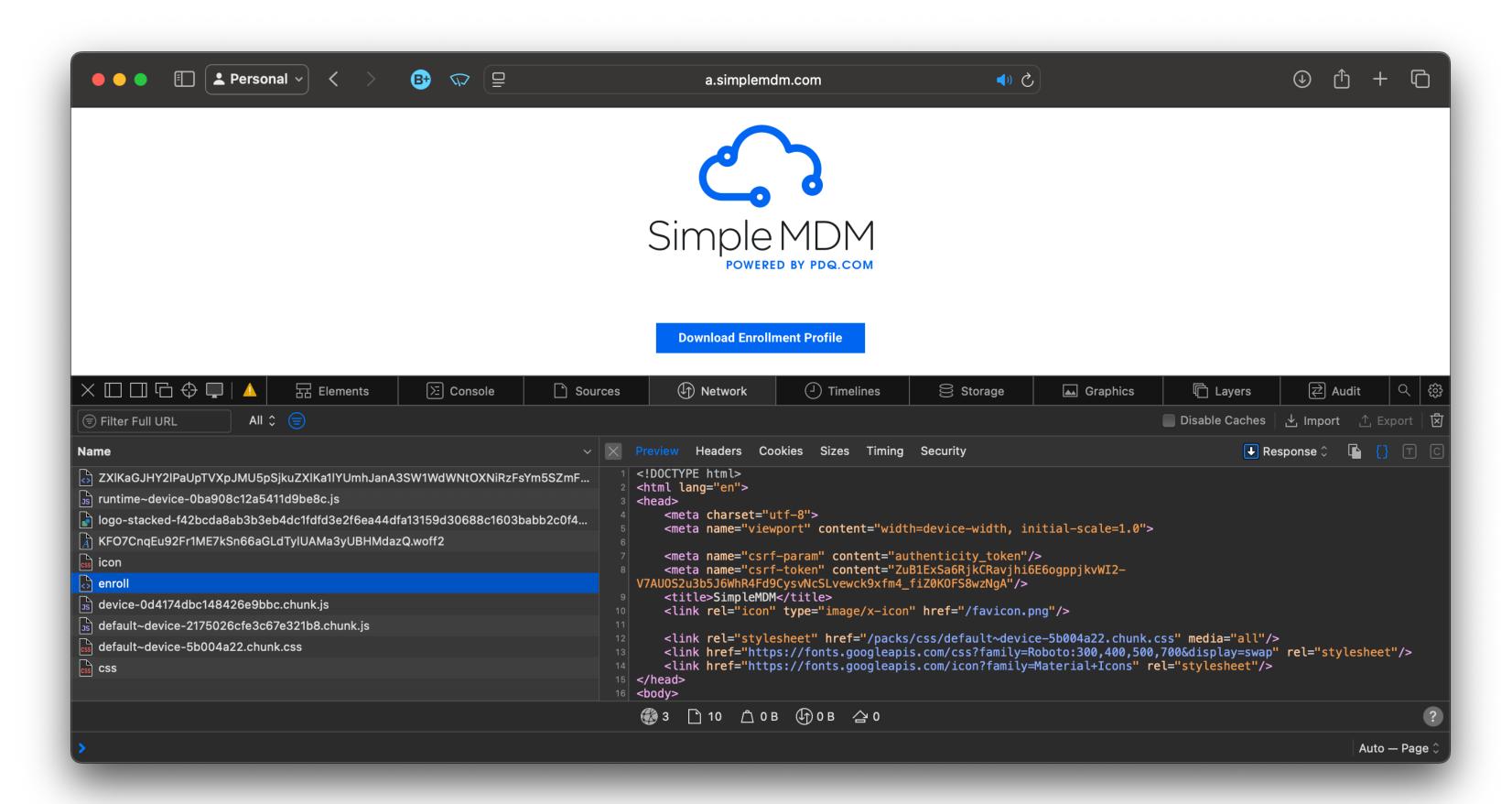
-6 characters
- IntStill dead easy to abuse 2

Future research - Other MDMs?

Future research - Other MDMs?

Safari -> Settings -> Advanced -> Show features for web developers

Develop -> Show web inspector



Wrapping up

Wrapping up

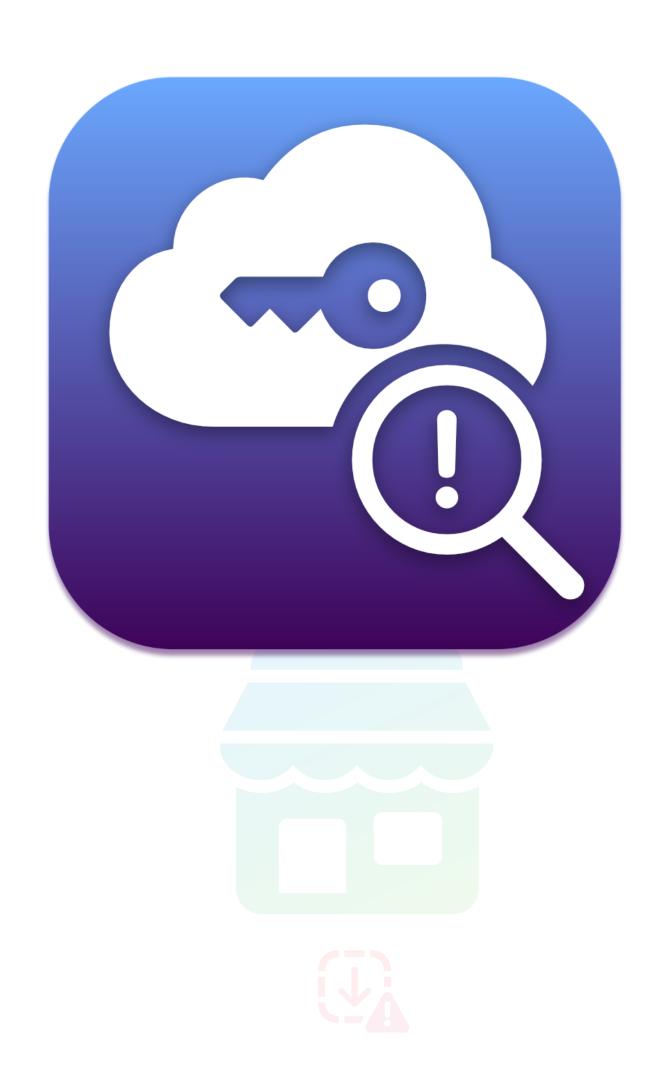


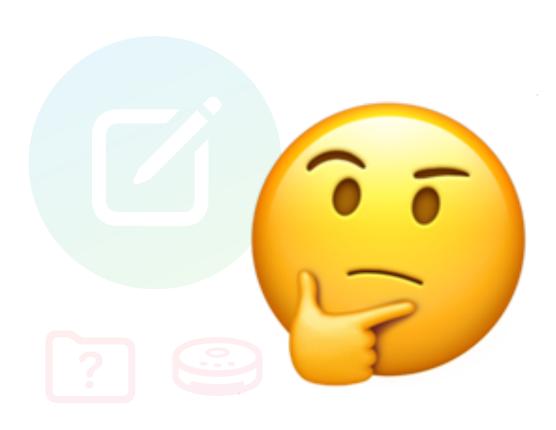






Wrapping up







Thanks for listening to my rambles!

Mirrored on khronokernel.com



Socials I guess?

- Twitter: https://twitter.com/khronokernel
- GitHub: https://github.com/khronokernel
- LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/mykola-grymalyuk

References

- Project Indago: https://github.com/ripeda/indago
- Project Lectricus: https://github.com/ripeda/lectricus
- Unit 42 Blog: https://unit42.paloaltonetworks.com/macos-stealers-growing/
- Apple Configuration Profile Reference: https://developer.apple.com/business/documentation/Configuration-Profile-Reference.pdf
- Root3's App Catalog: https://appcatalog.cloud
- Alectrona Patch: https://www.alectrona.com/patch
- Munki: https://github.com/munki/munki
- AutoPkg: https://github.com/autopkg/autopkg
- SimpleMDM: https://simplemdm.com/
- Mosyle: https://mosyle.com/
- Jamf Now: https://www.jamf.com/products/jamf-now/