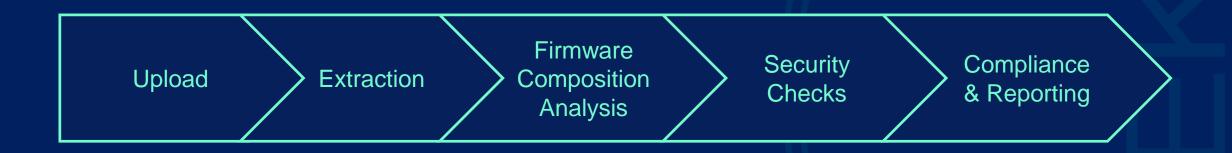
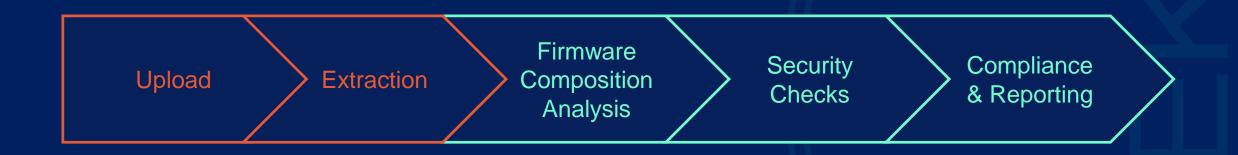
# Firmwares are weird

A year long journey to efficient extraction

Black Alps Conference, November 2022 Quentin Kaiser quentin.kaiser@onekey.com















We need to automatically extract firmwares of **arbitrary formats**, coming from **untrusted sources**, **at scale**.

Firmware **extraction** framework.

Parses unknown files, matching on more than 30 different archive, compression, and file-system formats.



https://www.unblob.org

#### Clear objectives:

- Accuracy
- Security
- Extensibility
- Speed



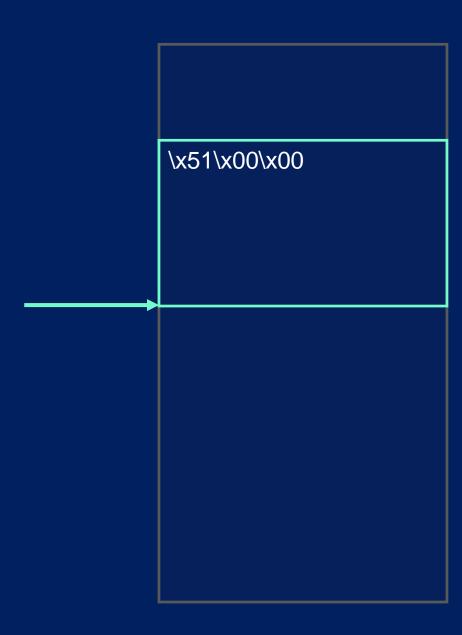
https://www.unblob.org

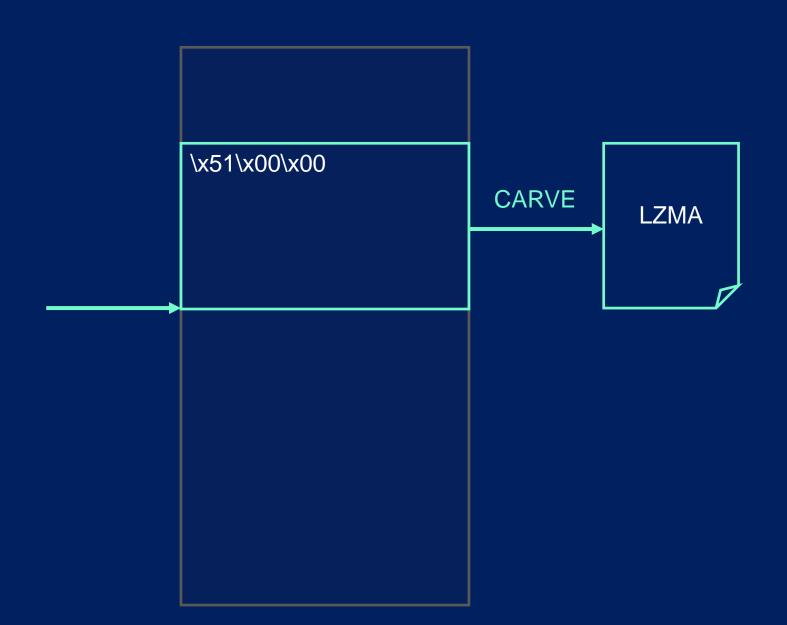
BIG OL' BINARY BLOB

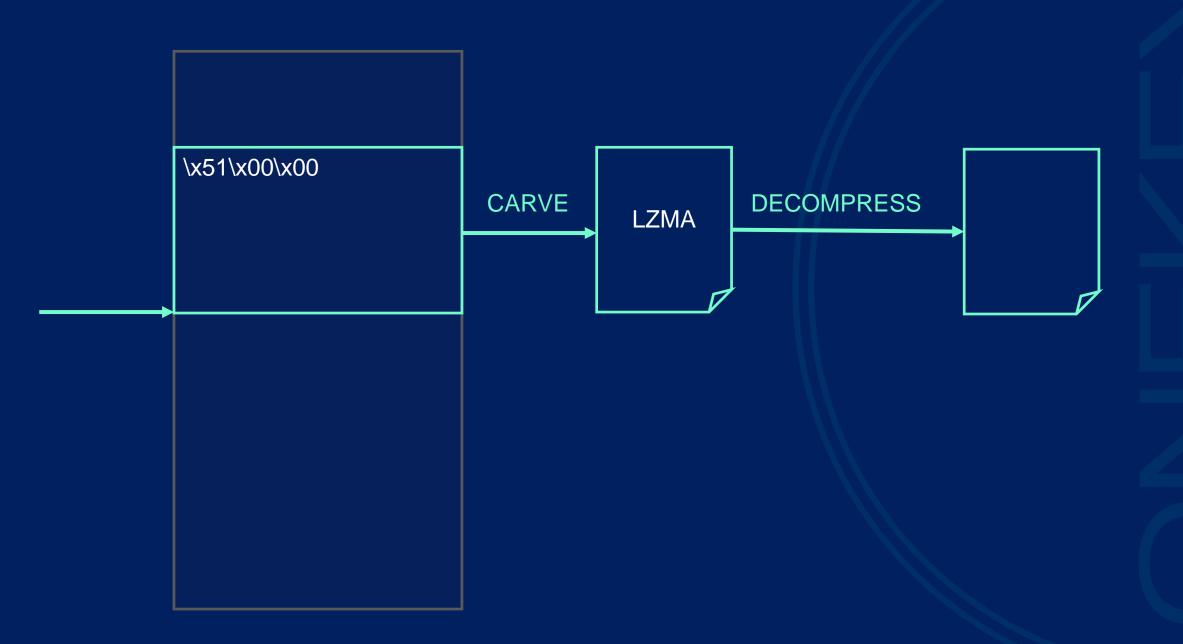
BIG OL' BINARY BLOB

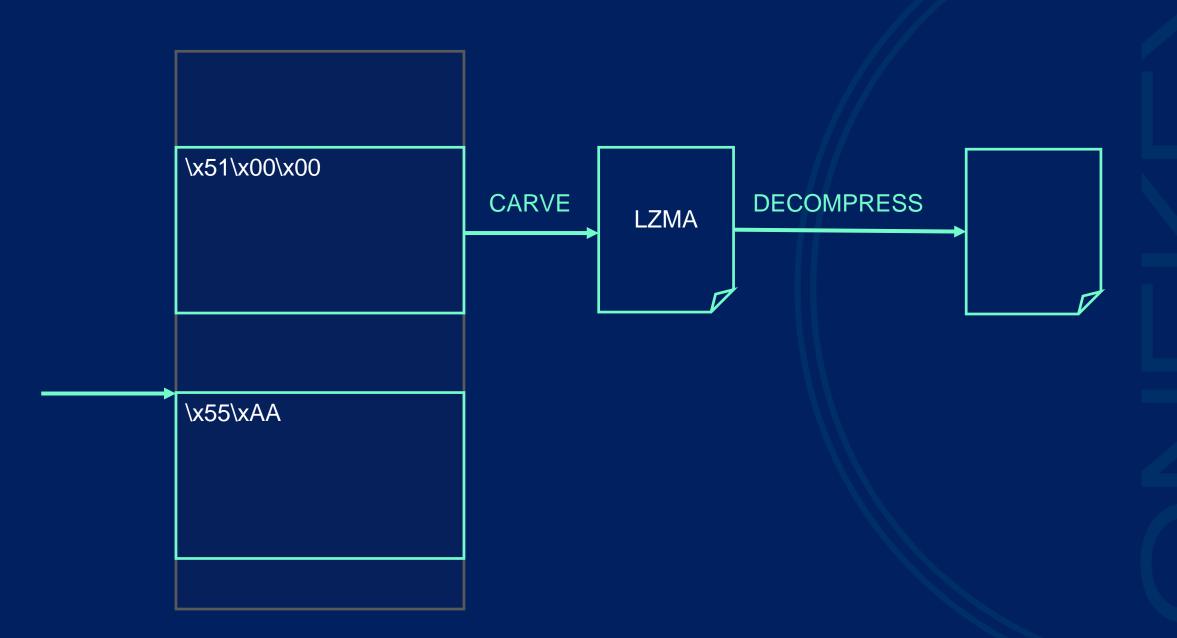
BIG OL' BINARY BLOB

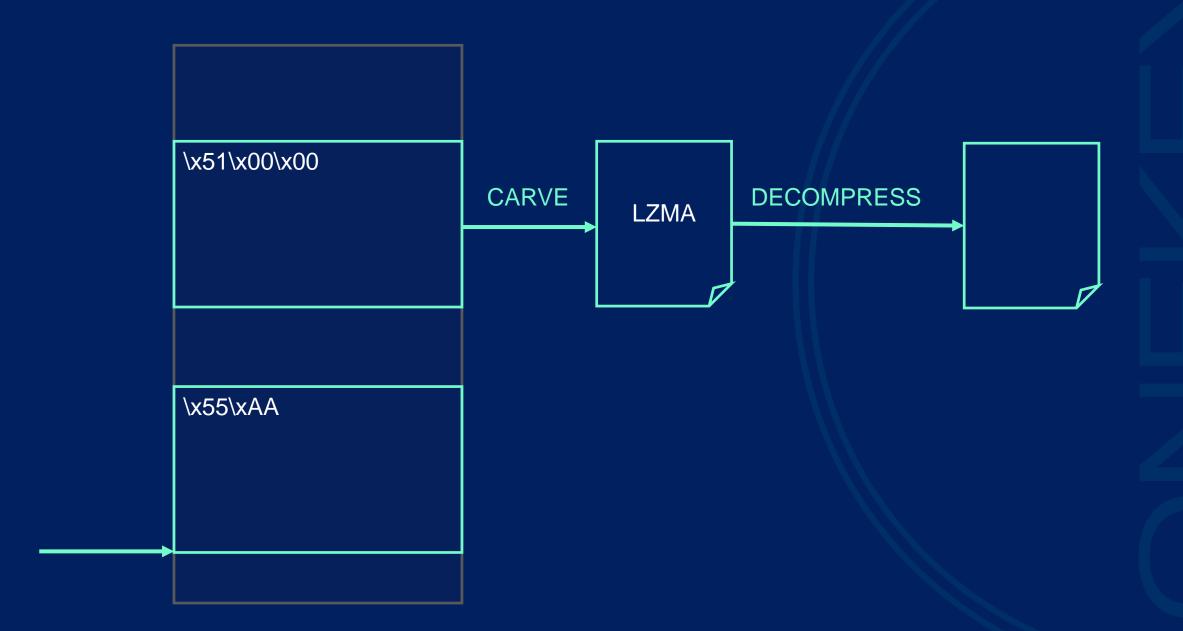


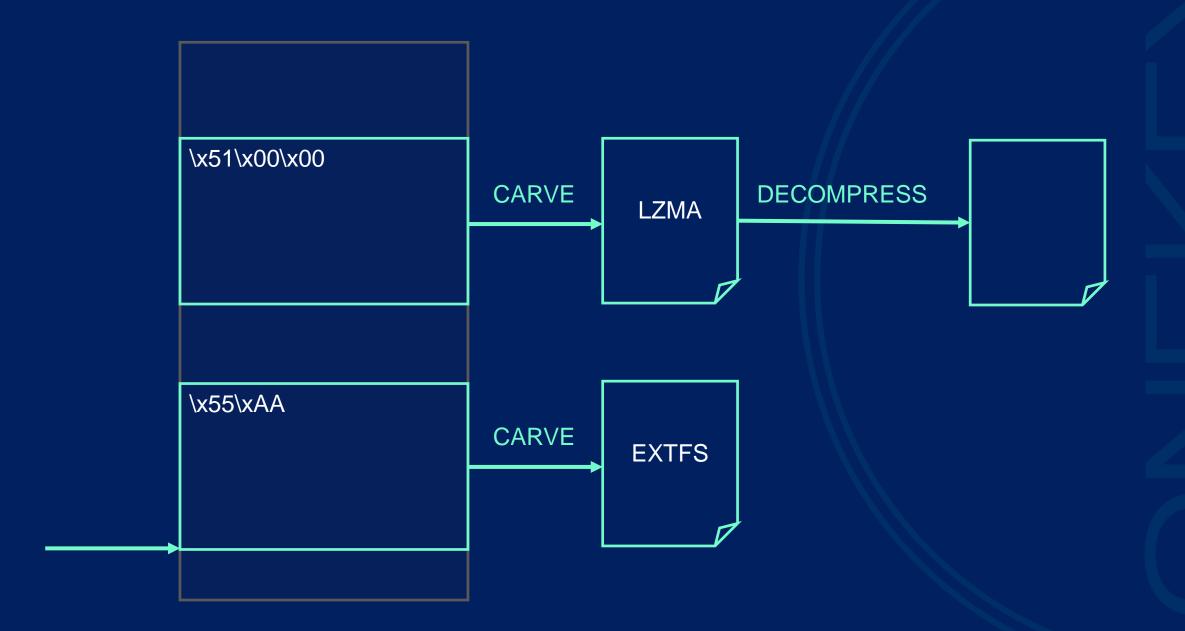


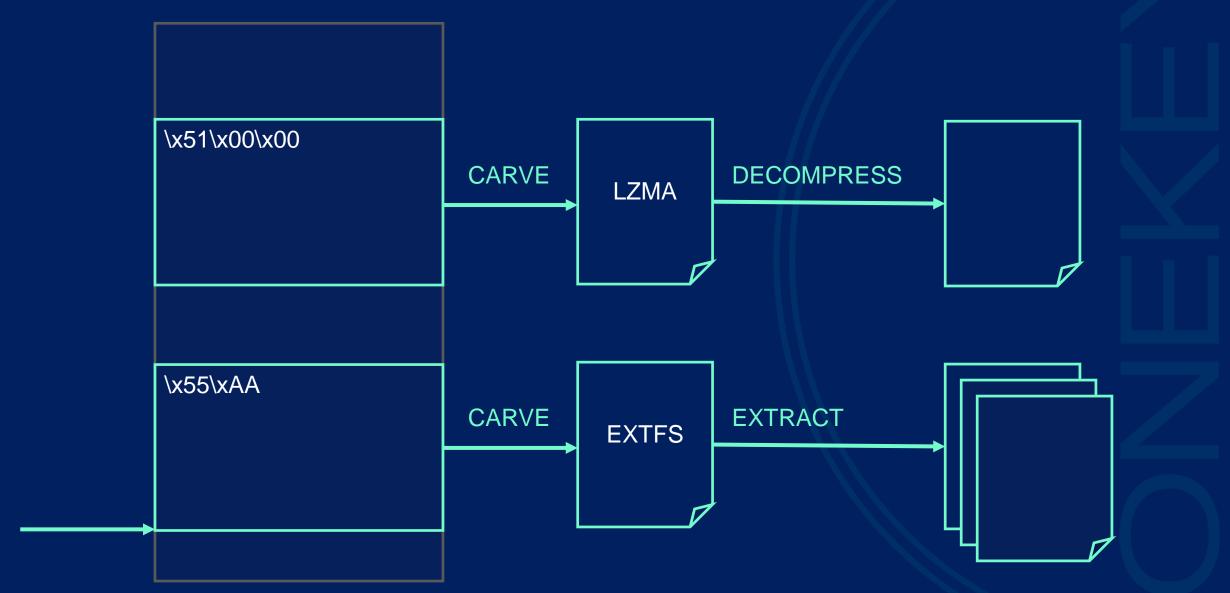


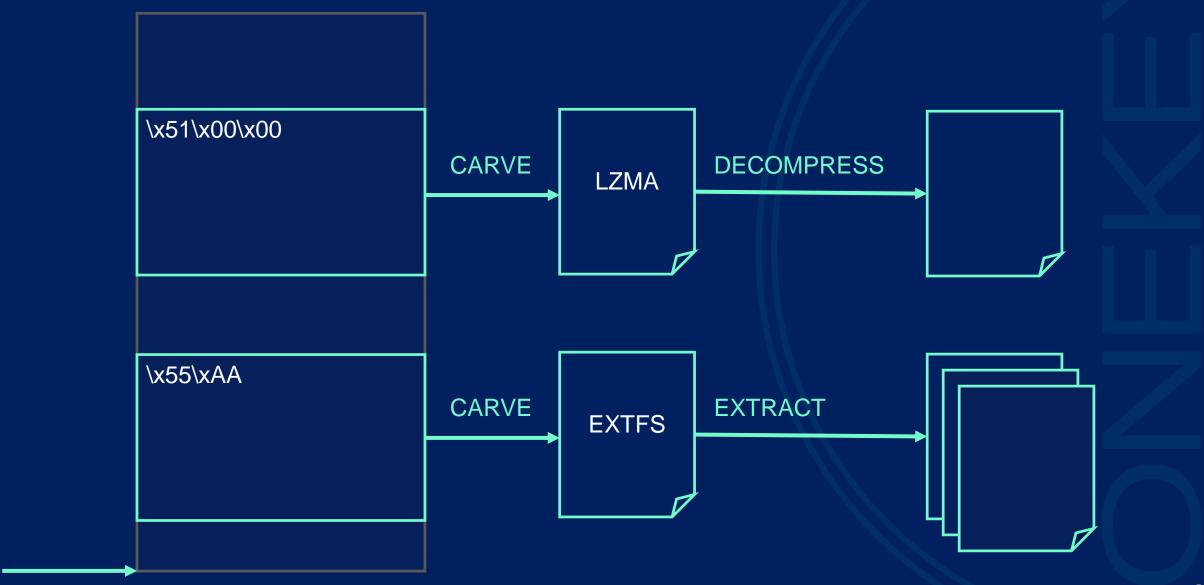


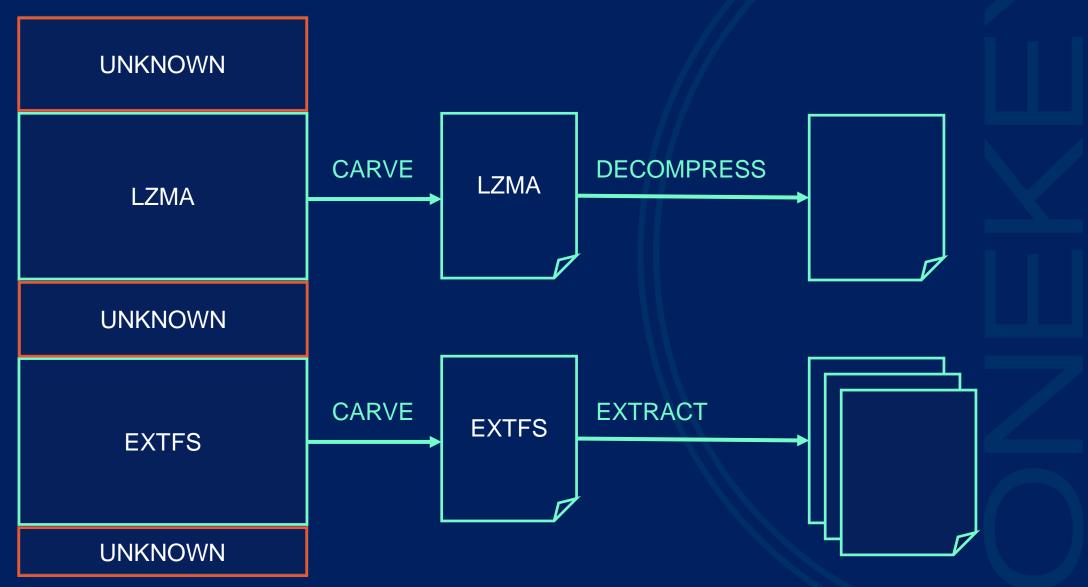


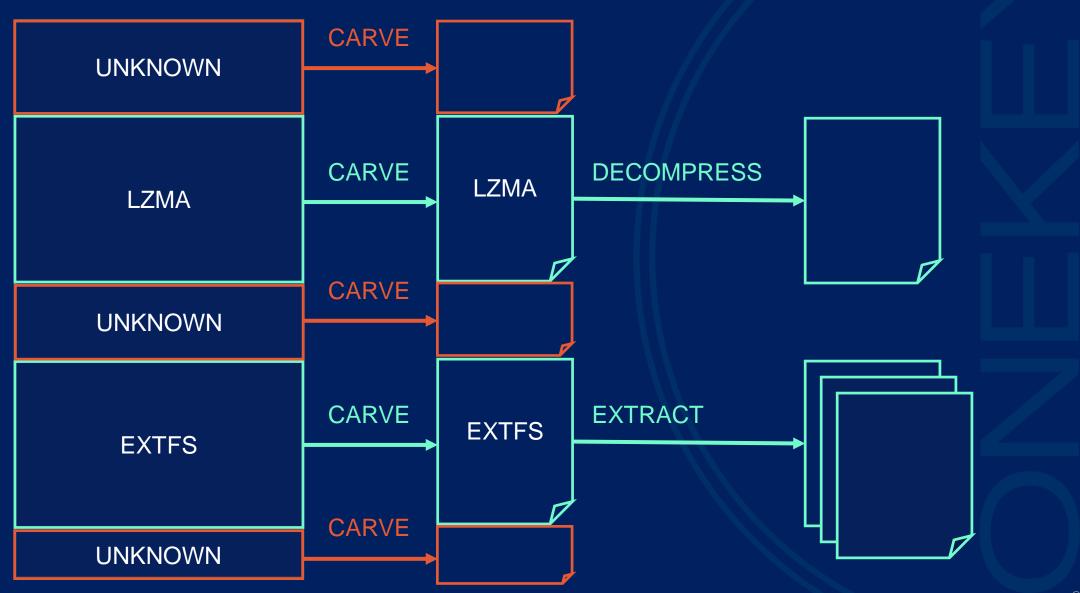


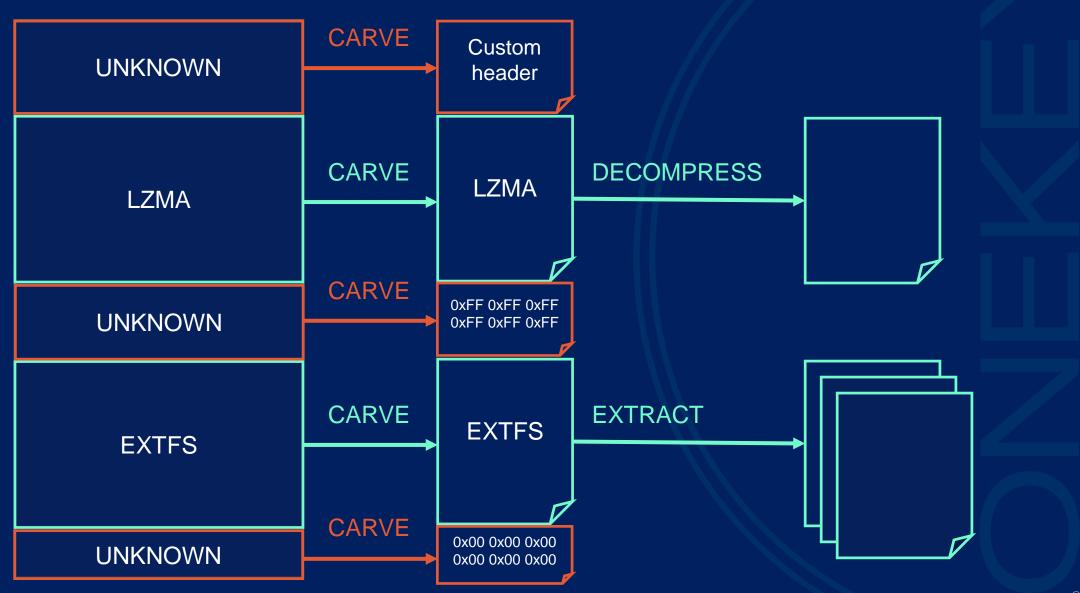












# BEING ACCURATE IN A WORLD OF EMBEDDED VENDORS WITH GREAT FIRMWARE IDEAS TM

**AKA HOW TO LOSE YOUR MIND IN 6 TO 8 MONTHS** 

	v2				
LE	hsqs				
BE	sqsh				

	v2	v3			
LE	hsqs	hsqs			
BE	sqsh	sqsh			

	v2	v3	v4			
LE	hsqs	hsqs	hsqs			
BE	sqsh	sqsh	sqsh			

	v2	v3	v4	DDWRT v3		
LE	hsqs	hsqs	hsqs	hsqt		
BE	sqsh	sqsh	sqsh	tqsh		

	v2	v3	v4	DDWRT v3	Broadcom v3		
LE	hsqs	hsqs	hsqs	hsqt	shsq		
BE	sqsh	sqsh	sqsh	tqsh	qshs		

	v2	v3	v4	DDWRT v3	Broadcom v3	??? v3	
LE	hsqs	hsqs	hsqs	hsqt	shsq	zlqs	
BE	sqsh	sqsh	sqsh	tqsh	qshs	sqlz	

	v2	v3	v4	DDWRT v3	Broadcom v3	??? v3	AVM	
LE	hsqs	hsqs	hsqs	hsqt	shsq	zlqs	Header in BE,	
BE	sqsh	sqsh	sqsh	tqsh	qshs	sqlz	but chunks in LE.	

	v2	v3	v4	DDWRT v3	Broadcom v3	??? v3	AVM	Netgear
LE	hsqs	hsqs	hsqs	hsqt	shsq	<u>.</u>	<b>,</b>	Let's use a non
BE	sqsh	sqsh	sqsh	tqsh	qshs	sqlz	but chunks in LE.	standard LZMA + XZ
								compression!

	v2	v3	v4	DDWRT v3	Broadcom v3	??? v3	AVM	Netgear
LE	hsqs	hsqs	hsqs	hsqt	shsq	zlqs	<b>'</b>	Let's use a non
BE	sqsh	sqsh	sqsh	tqsh	qshs	sqlz	but chunks in LE.	standard LZMA + XZ
								compression!

#### THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF VENDOR FORMATS

computed\_crc=0x3af2f56e header\_crc=0x6ef5f23a

commit 32320fdb88bc930c0b2bc2935ada8bff5fdc9042 (**394-disable-cramfs-crc**)

Author: Quentin Kaiser <quentin.kaiser@onekey.com>

Date: Thu Jun 9 16:17:55 2022 +0200

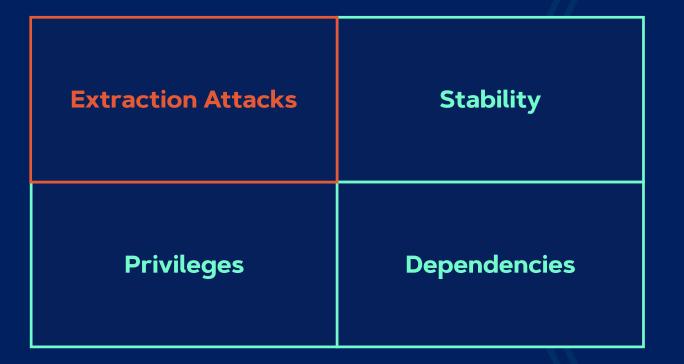
Improve cramfs CRC checking.

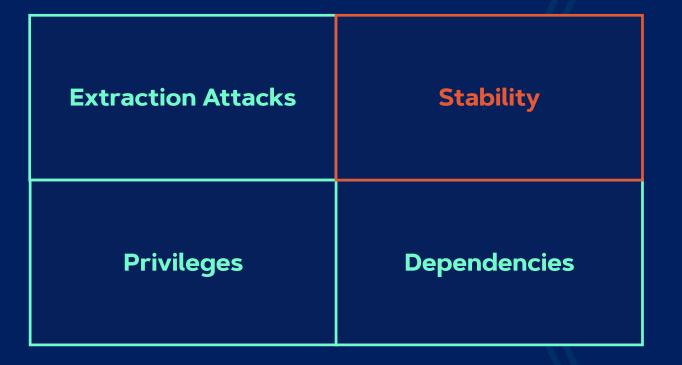
We observed a sample from Cisco where the CRC value was stored in a different endianness. This is non standard but we decided to support it anyway.

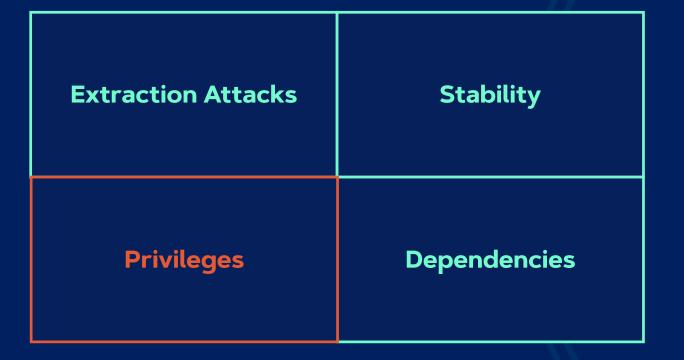
We also added a check for old cramfs format. If it's an old format, the CRC check always returns true because it's not supported.

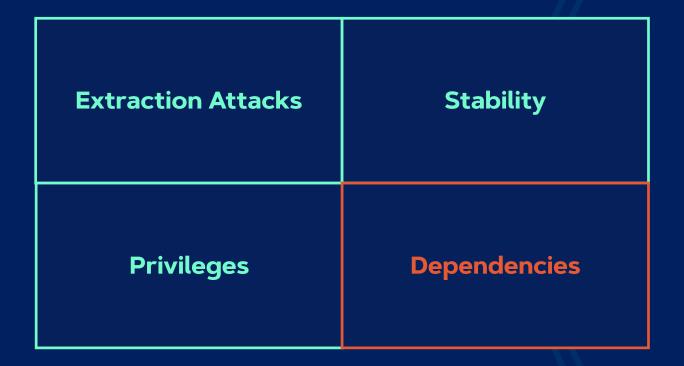
More information about CRC validation and old format: https://github.com/secularbird/cramfs/blob/master/cramfsck.c

Extraction Attacks	Stability
Privileges	Dependencies









**Extraction Attacks** 

**Stability** 

**Dependencies** 

**Privileges** 

Audited third party extraction tools we rely on.

Found path traversals vulnerabilities in:

- jefferson (fixed)
- ubi-reader (fixed)
- Yaffshiv (fixed in our fork)
- binwalk (fixed in our fork)

And a few other logic bugs related to inode handling (looking at you Stefan ©).

```
y ♣ 25 ■■■■ src/scripts/jefferson □

            + def is safe path(basedir, path, follow symlinks=True):
                   if follow symlinks:
                       matchpath = os.path.realpath(path)
        56
                   else:
        57
                       matchpath = os.path.abspath(path)
        58
                   return basedir == os.path.commonpath((basedir, matchpath))
        59
               cstruct.typedef("uint8", "uint8 t")
               cstruct.typedef("uint16", "jint16 t")
               @@ -474,20 +479,32 @@ def dump fs(fs, target):
474
                       node names.append(dirent.name.decode())
       479
475
                       path = "/".join(node names)
476
                       target path = os.path.join(os.getcwd(), target, path)
477
                       target path = os.path.realpath(os.path.join(os.getcwd(), target, path))
       482
       483
                       if not is safe path(target, target path):
       484
                           print(f"Path traversal attempt to {target path}, discarding.")
       485
                           continue
       486
       487
```

```
↓ 12 ■■■■ ubireader/ubifs/output.py [□]
            + def is safe path(basedir, path, follow symlinks=True):
                  if follow symlinks:
        30
                       matchpath = os.path.realpath(path)
        31
                  else:
        32
                       matchpath = os.path.abspath(path)
                  return basedir == os.path.commonpath((basedir, matchpath))
        34
              def extract files(ubifs, out path, perms=False):
                   """Extract UBIFS contents to path/
               @@ -60,7 +66,11 @@ def extract dents(ubifs, inodes, dent node, path='', perms=False):
                  inode = inodes[dent node.inum]
                  dent path = os.path.join(path, dent_node.name)
63
        69
                  if not is safe path(path, dent path):
        70
                       log(extract dents, 'path traversal attempt: %s, discarding' % (dent path))
        71 +
                      return
        72 +
        73 +
```

```
✓ 💠 20 ■■■■ src/yaffshiv 📮
               class Compat(object):
                   Python2/3 compatability methods.
               @@ -607,13 +612,14 @@ class YAFFSExtractor(YAFFS):
                       for (entry id, file path) in Compat.iterator(self.file paths):
       612
                           entry = self.file entries[entry id]
       613
                           if file path and int(entry.yaffs obj type) == self.YAFFS OBJECT TYPE DIRECTORY:
                               file path = os.path.join(outdir, file path)
       615 +
       616 +
                               # Check the file name for possible path traversal attacks
       617
                               if b'...' in file path:
611
                               if not is safe path(outdir, file path):
       618 +
                                   sys.stderr.write("Warning: Refusing to create directory '%s': possible path traversal\n" % file path)
612
                                   continue
613
       620
       621
       622 🛨
615
                               try:
                                   file path = os.path.join(outdir, file path)
616
                                   os.makedirs(file path)
       623
                                   self. set mode owner(file path, entry)
       624
                                   dir count += 1
       625
```



Quentin Kaiser Oct 17th at 6:46 AM

Only real python developers can identify the bug in this code. Will you find it?

IMG\_1896 ▼

```
eith PFS(fname) as fa!

# The and of PFS note data is the start of the actual data
data = binealk.core.commun.Blockfile(fname, 'rb')
data.seek(fs.get.end.ef.meta.data())
for entry in fs.entries():
    suffile_path = os.path.jein(ost_dir):
        binealk.core.commun.sarning("Unpts extractor detected directory tra-
mise:
        self._create_dir_from_fname(outfile_path)
        outfile = binealk.core.commun.BlockFile(outfile_path, 'eb')
        suffile.ellose()
        data.close()
        arrapt KeybeardInterrupt on e:
        raise #
maxest Exception on e:
```



6

```
try:
   with PFS(fname) as fs:
        # The end of PFS meta data is the start of the actual data
        data = binwalk.core.common.BlockFile(fname, 'rb')
        data.seek(fs.get_end_of_meta_data())
        for entry in fs.entries():
            outfile_path = os.path.join(out_dir, entry.fname)
            if not outfile_path.startswith(out_dir):
                binwalk.core.common.warning("Unpfs extractor detected directory trav
            else:
                self._create_dir_from_fname(outfile_path)
                outfile = binwalk.core.common.BlockFile(outfile path, 'wb')
                outfile.write(data.read(entry.fsize))
                outfile.close()
        data.close()
except KeyboardInterrupt as e:
    raise e
except Exception as e:
```

```
y ♣ 2 ■■■■ src/binwalk/plugins/unpfs.py □

               @@ -104,7 +104,7 @@ def extractor(self, fname):
                               data = binwalk.core.common.BlockFile(fname, 'rb')
104
       104
                               data.seek(fs.get_end_of_meta_data())
105
       105
                               for entry in fs.entries():
106
       106
                                   outfile_path = os.path.join(out_dir, entry.fname)
107
                                   outfile path = os.path.abspath(os.path.join(out dir, entry.fname))
       107
                                   if not outfile path.startswith(out dir):
108
       108
                                       binwalk.core.common.warning("Unpfs extractor detected directory traversal
109
       109
                                   else:
110
       110
```

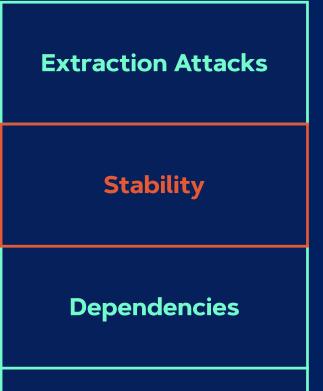


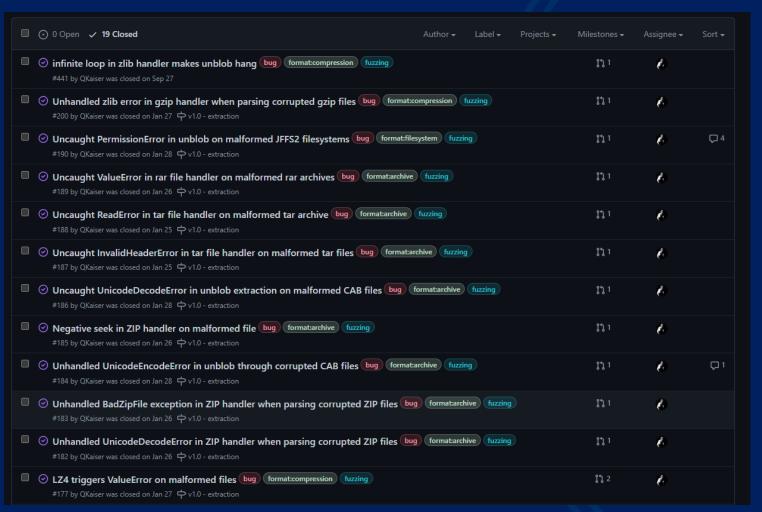
**Extraction Attacks** 

**Stability** 

**Dependencies** 

- Fuzz testing of unblob code base.
- Found and fixed 19 bugs so far.
- Logic bugs on malformed / corrupted files mostly.





#### **Extraction Attacks**

**Stability** 

**Dependencies** 

- All our dependencies are documented and locked with poetry.
- Even better if you use our Nix build.

**Extraction Attacks** 

**Stability** 

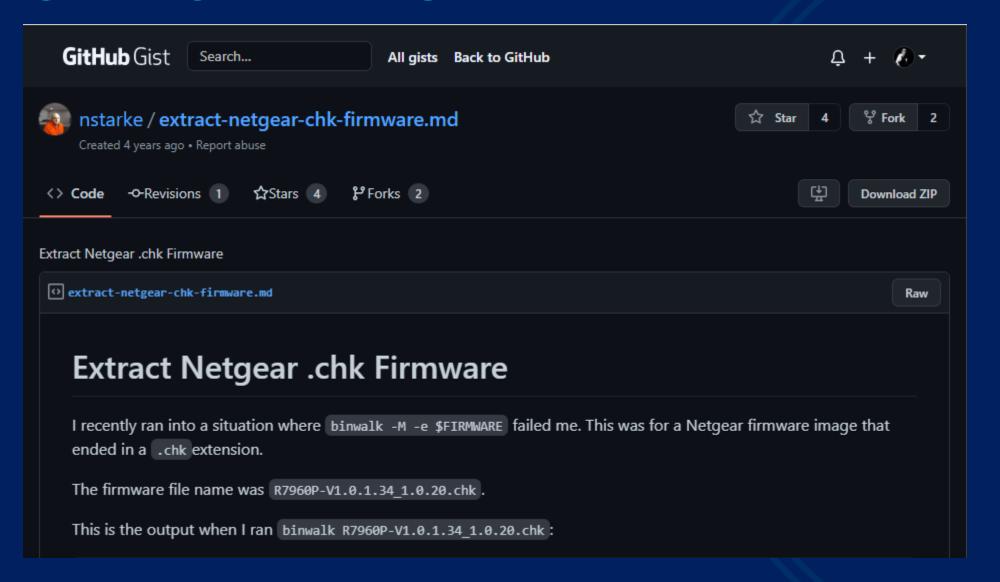
**Dependencies** 

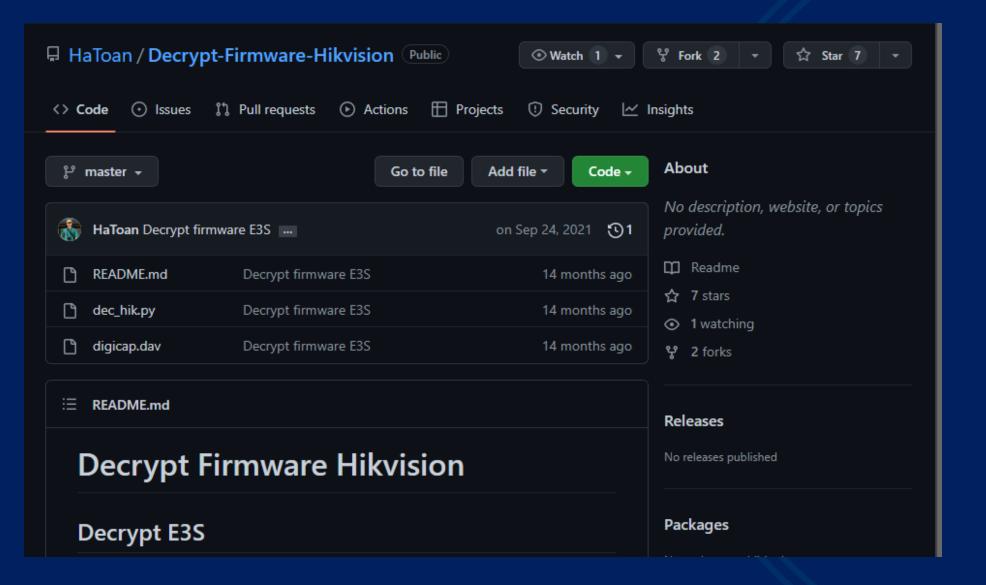
- No elevated privileges required.
- Opinionated decision, we can't create special files.

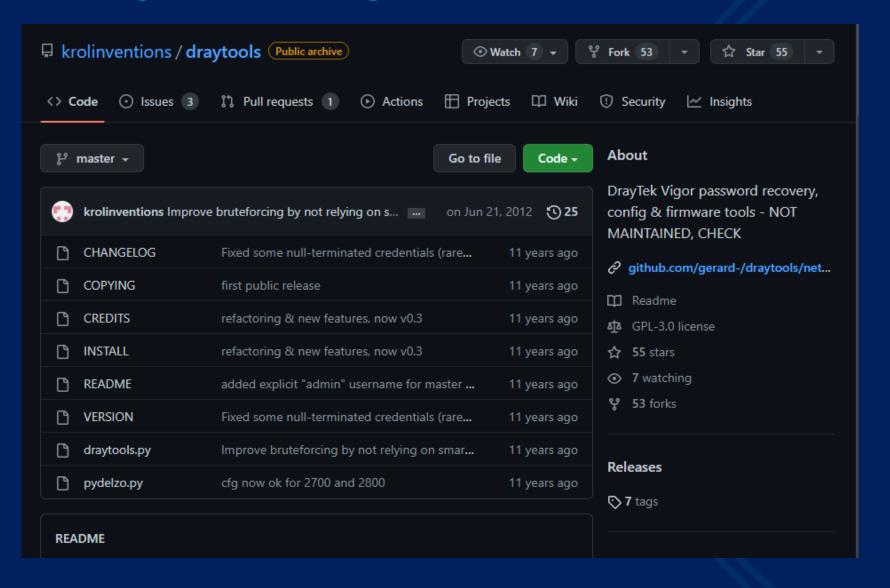
#### A Brief History of Metasploit

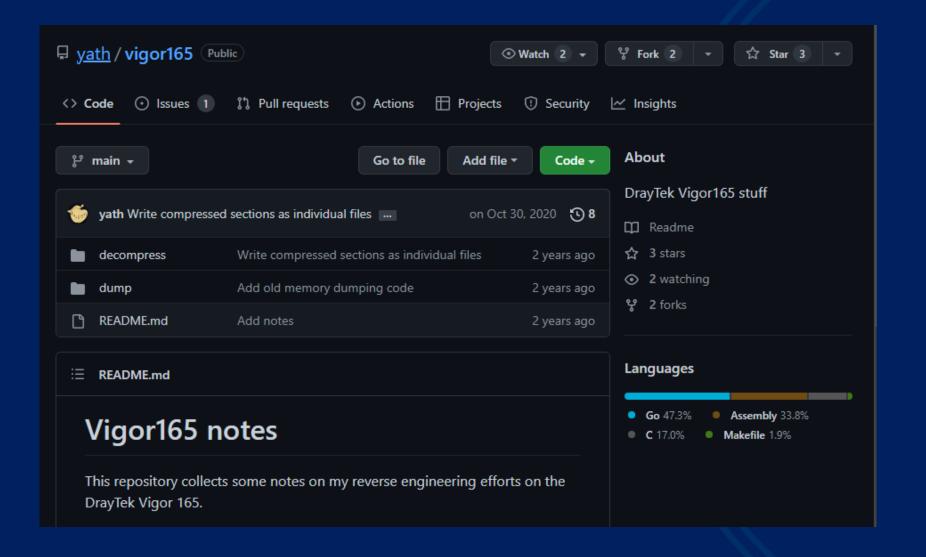
Metasploit was originally developed and conceived by HD Moore while he was employed by a security firm. When HD realized that he was spending most of his time validating and sanitizing public exploit code, he began to create a flexible and maintainable framework for the creation and development of exploits. He released his first edition of the Perl-based Metasploit in October 2003 with a total of 11 exploits.

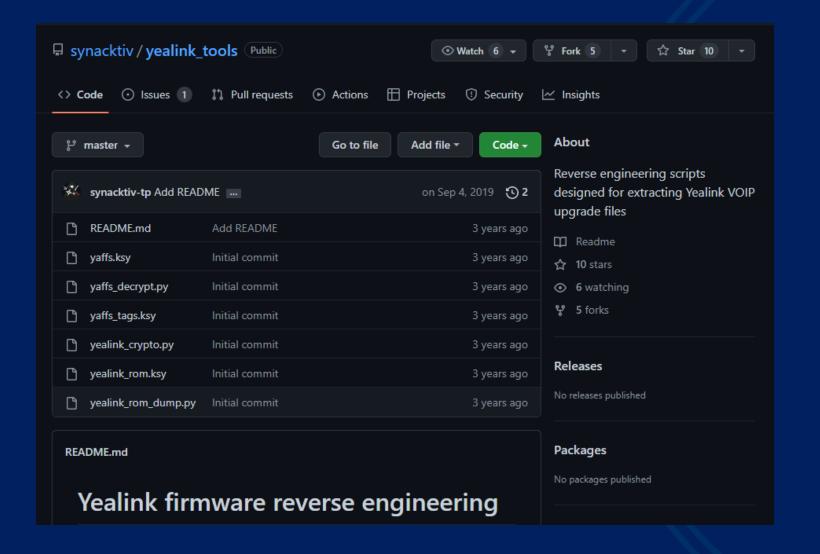
With the help of Spoonm, HD released a total rewrite of the project, Metasploit 2.0, in April 2004. This version included 19 exploits and over 27 payloads. Shortly after this release, Matt Miller (Skape) joined the Metasploit development team, and as the project gained popularity, the Metasploit Framework received ...





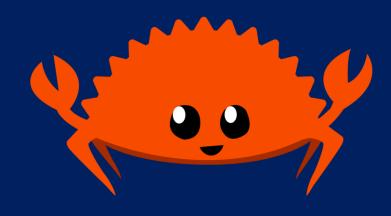






# **OBJECTIVE 4: SPEED**





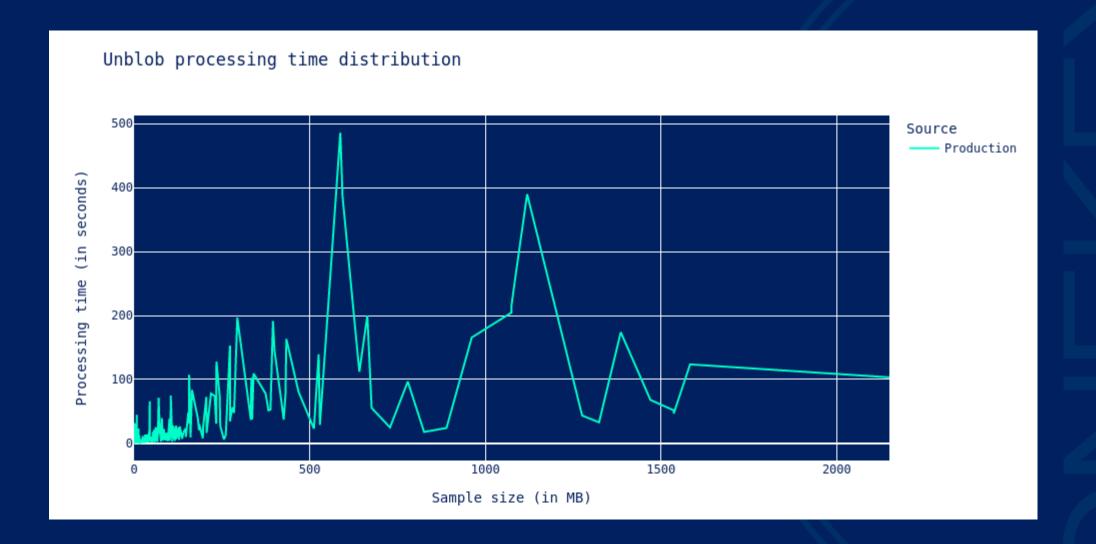


Hyperscan

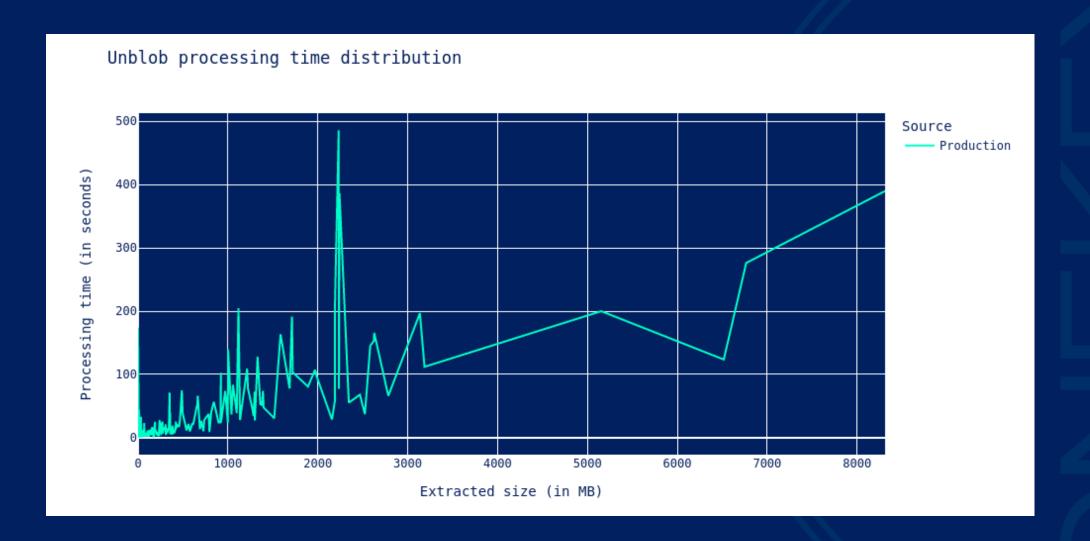
Rust

MMAP'ing

# **OBJECTIVE 4: SPEED**



# **OBJECTIVE 4: SPEED**



# The team behind unblob



tests00



Krisztián Fekete e3krisztian



György Kiss kissgyorgy



László Vaskó vlaci



János Kukovecz kukovecz



Marton Illes martonilles



Mücahid KIR mucoze



mzombor r4bbit-r4



Quentin Kaiser QKaiser

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Getting Started
- 2. Extraction, Analysis & Reporting
- 3. Creating a Format Handler
- 4. Creating a Format Extractor
- 5. Q&A

#### **GETTING STARTED**

You can start with unblob in 3 different ways:

- 1. Docker
- 2. Nix
- 3. Source

# **GETTING STARTED (DOCKER)**

```
docker run \
    --rm \
    --pull always \
    -v /path/to/extract-dir/on/host:/data/output \
    -v /path/to/files/on/host:/data/input \
    ghcr.io/onekey-sec/unblob:latest /data/input/path/to/file
```

# **GETTING STARTED (NIX)**

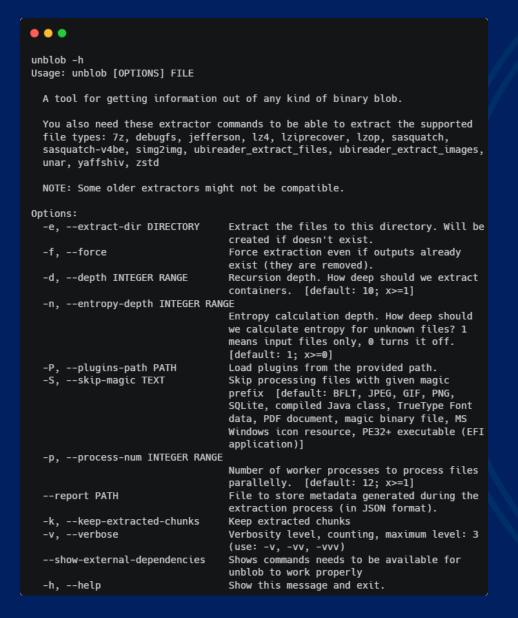
```
nix profile install github:onekey-sec/unblob
unblob --show-external-dependencies
The following executables found installed, which are needed by unblob:
    7z
    jefferson
    lz4
    lziprecover
    lzop
    simg2img
    tar
    ubireader_extract_files
    ubireader_extract_images
    unar
    unromfs
    unsquashfs
    yaffshiv
```

# **GETTING STARTED (SOURCE)**



```
git clone https://github.com/onekey-sec/unblob.git
cd unblob
poetry install --no-dev
```

#### LET'S EXTRACT SOME STUFF!



#### **EXTRACTORS**

Extracting sometimes require external extractors, in some case also non-standard tools that could handle the "creative" extensions of various vendors.

We maintain various forks of extractors:

- jefferson (https://github.com/onekey-sec/jefferson)
- sasquatch (https://github.com/onekey-sec/sasquatch)
- ubi\_reader (https://github.com/onekey-sec/ubi\_reader)
- yaffshiv (https://github.com/onekey-sec/yaffshiv)

Many other extractors are built into unblob.

#### **FUTURE WORK**

- Clean report of extraction process in console
- Increase meta-data extraction
- Unknown chunks auto-identification (introspection)
- Additional format support

#### **CONTRIBUTE!**

- Test it on your weirdest files
- Report bugs
- Request support for new formats
- Submit PR for new handlers and extractors

https://github.com/onekey-sec/unblob

# **CONTRIBUTE!**

