



## Malware Analysis on a shoe-string budget

Michael Boman - Security Consultant/Researcher, Father of 5

# Why the strange hobby?



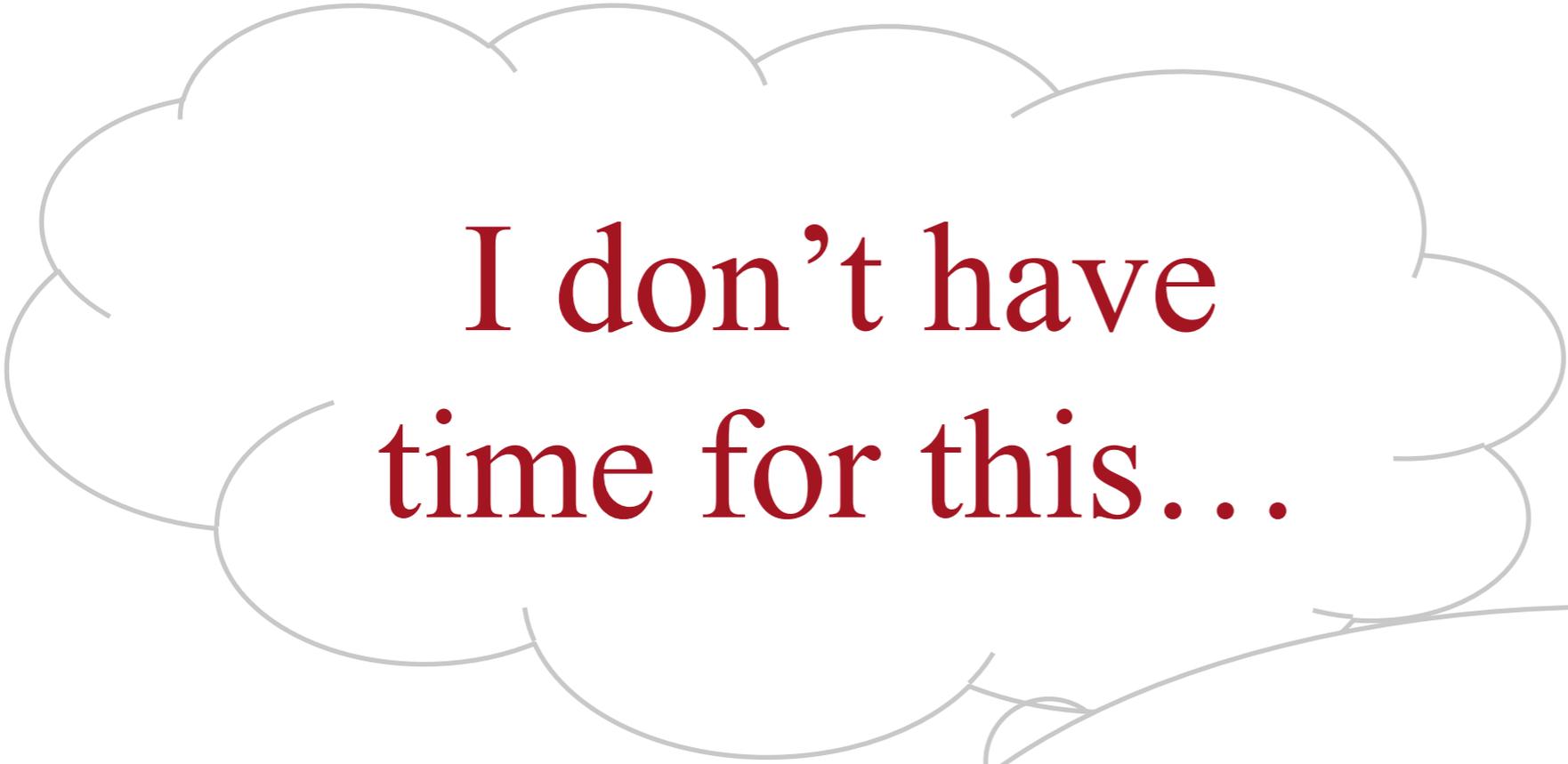
phillipmartin.info



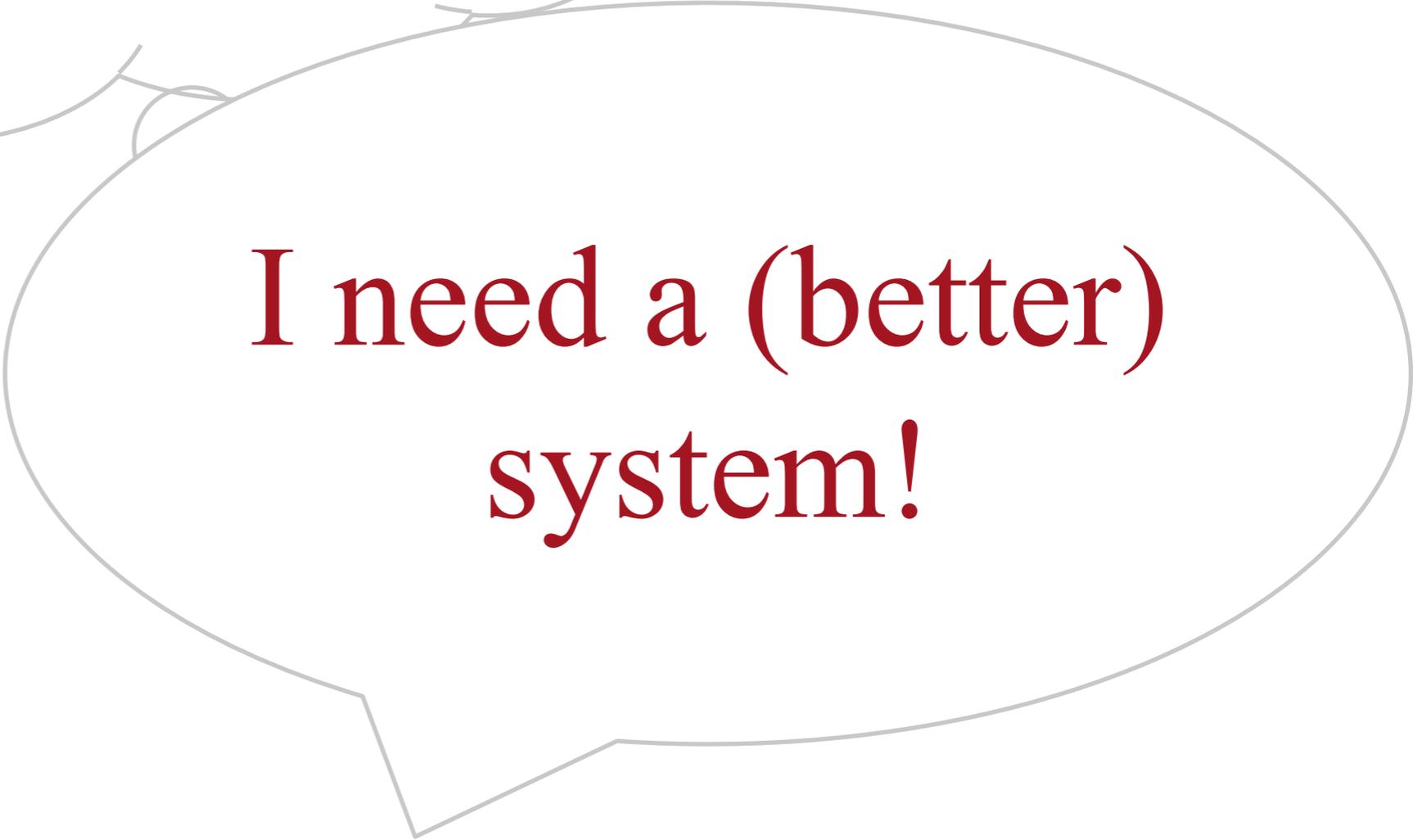


# Drawbacks

- Time consuming
- Boring in the long run
  - not all malware are created equal

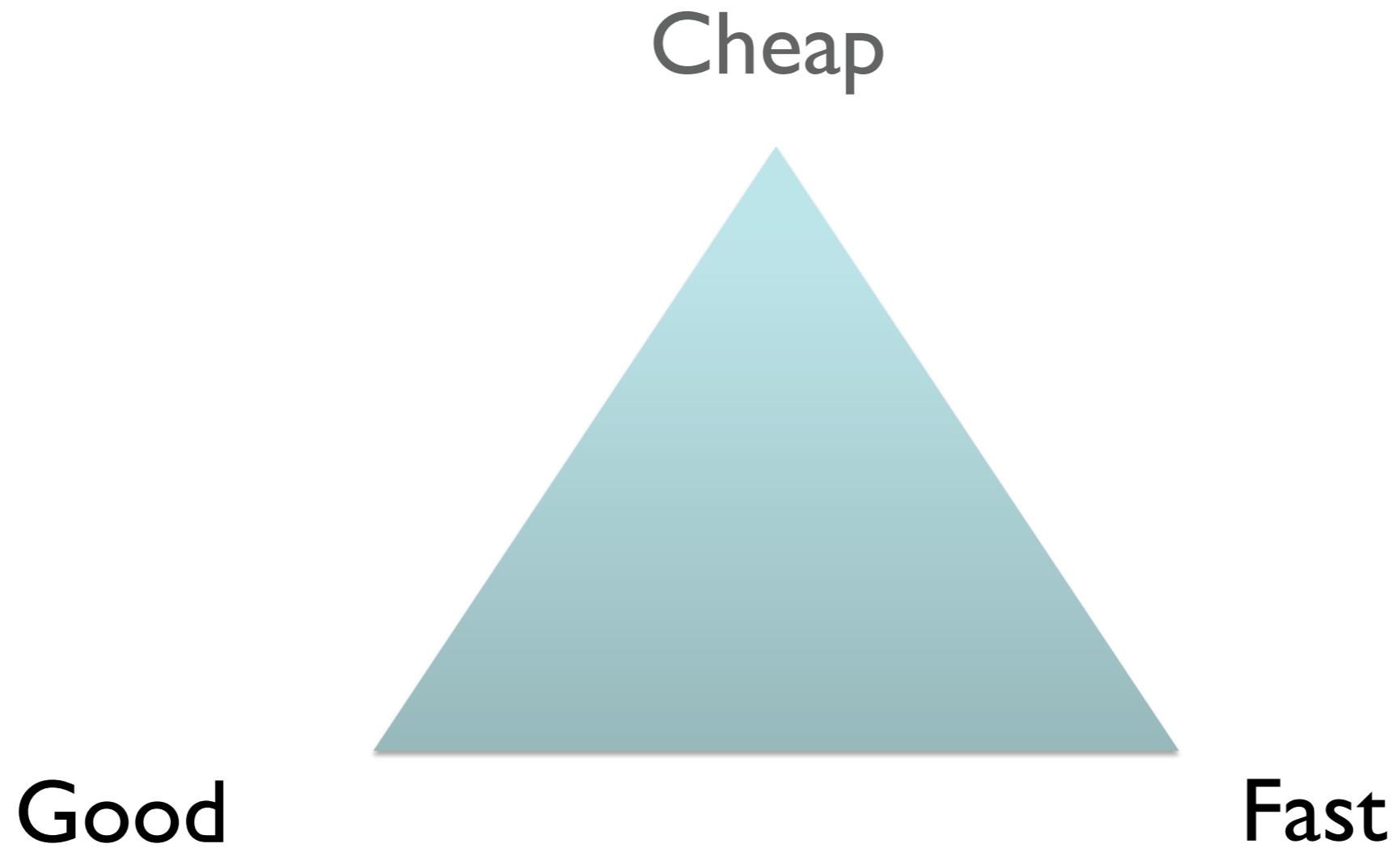


I don't have  
time for this...

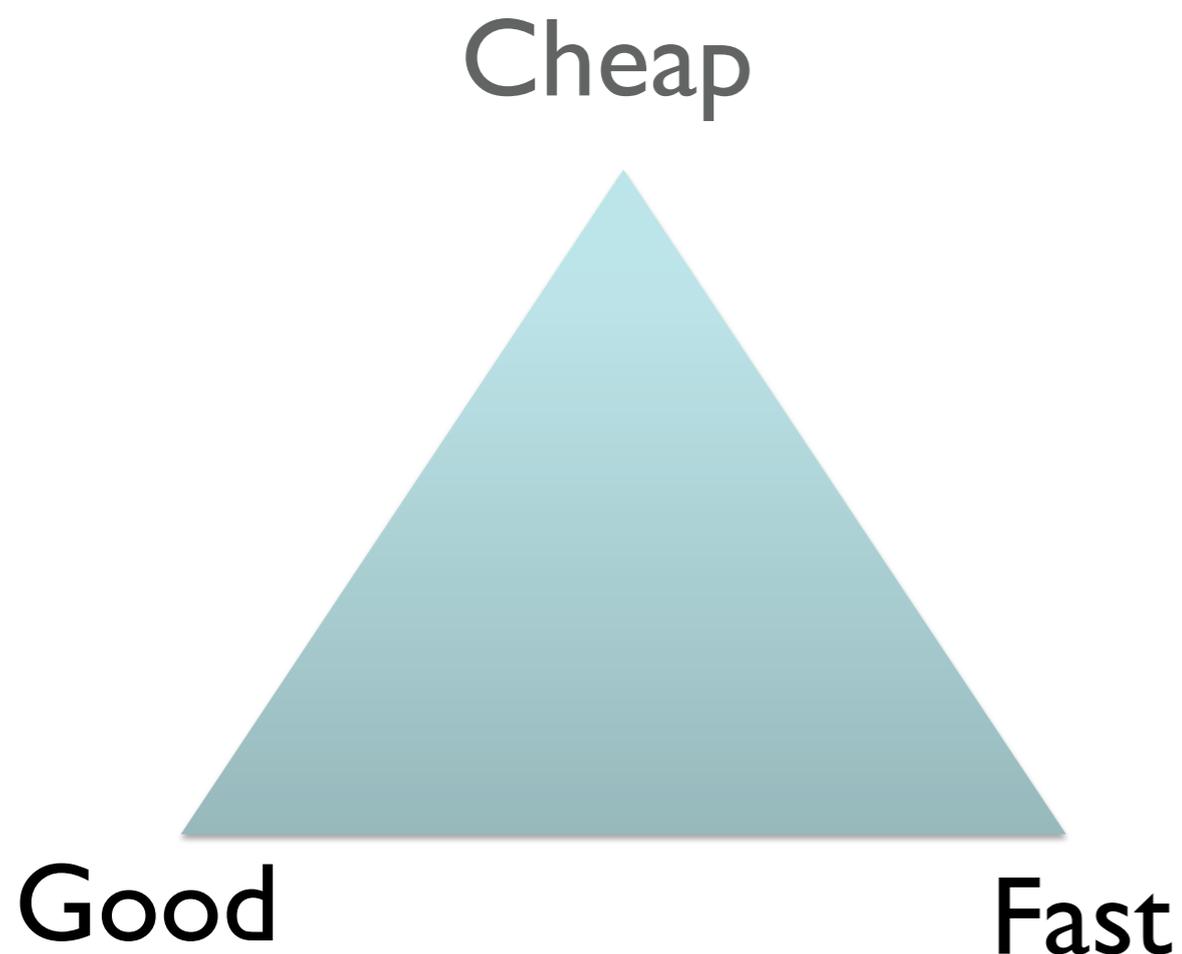


I need a (better)  
system!

# Choose any two....



Choose any two?  
Why not all of them?



I can do it **cheaply** (hardware and license cost-wise) - Human time not included.

I can do it **quickly** (I spend up to 3 hours a day doing this, at average even less). An analysis is done in less than 5 minutes...

I get **pretty good** results (quality). Where the system lacks I can compensate for its shortcomings.

Automate  
everything!

# Automate

Engineer yourself out of the workflow



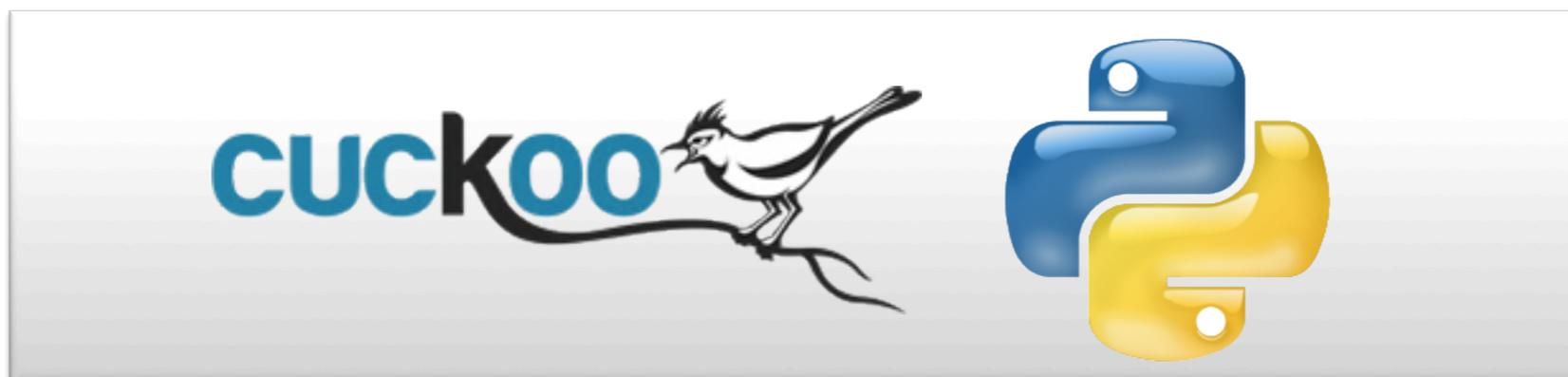
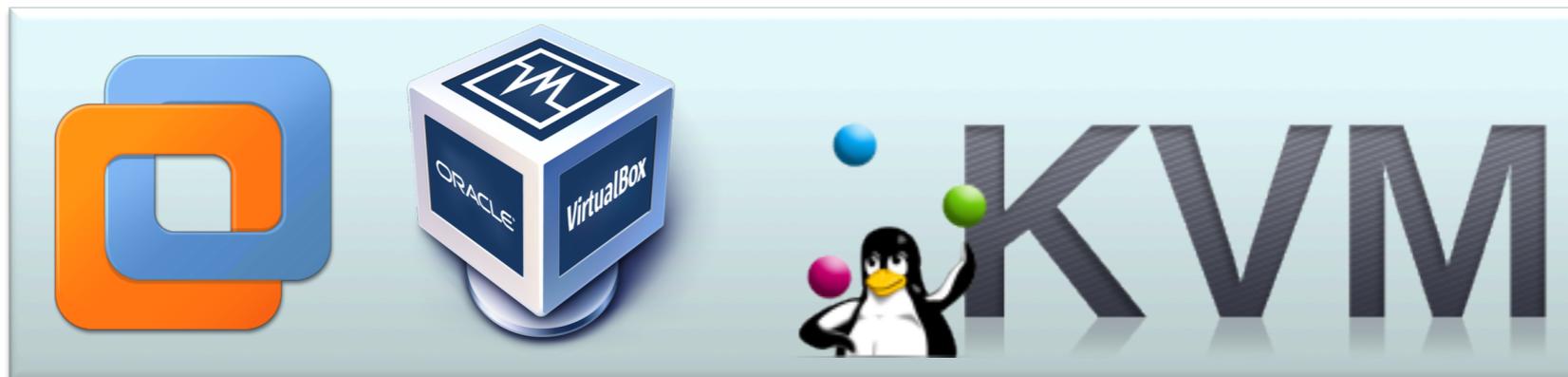


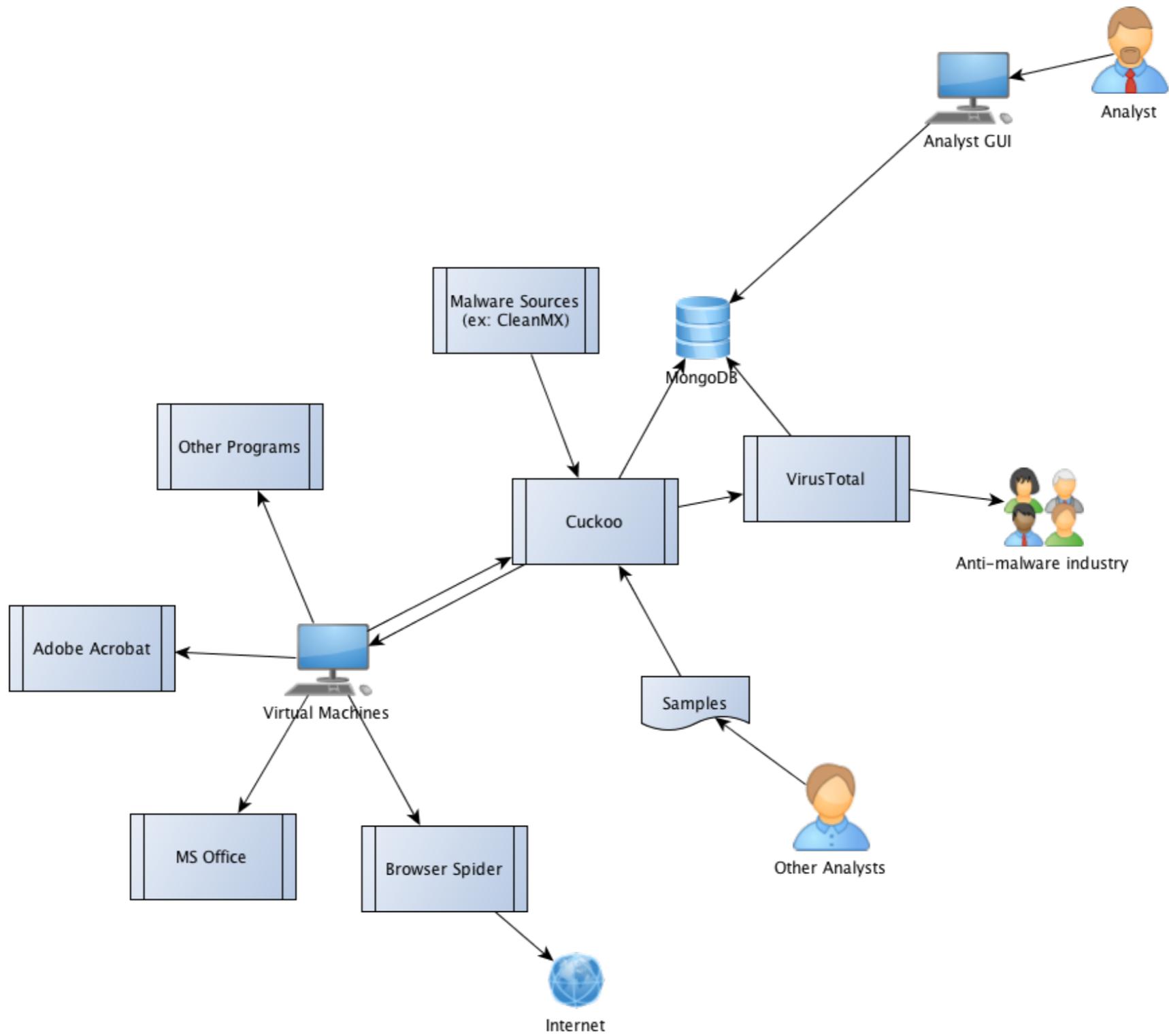
**M.A.R.T**  
**MALWARE ANALYST RESEARCH TOOL**

# Birth of the MART Project

Malware Analyst Research Toolkit

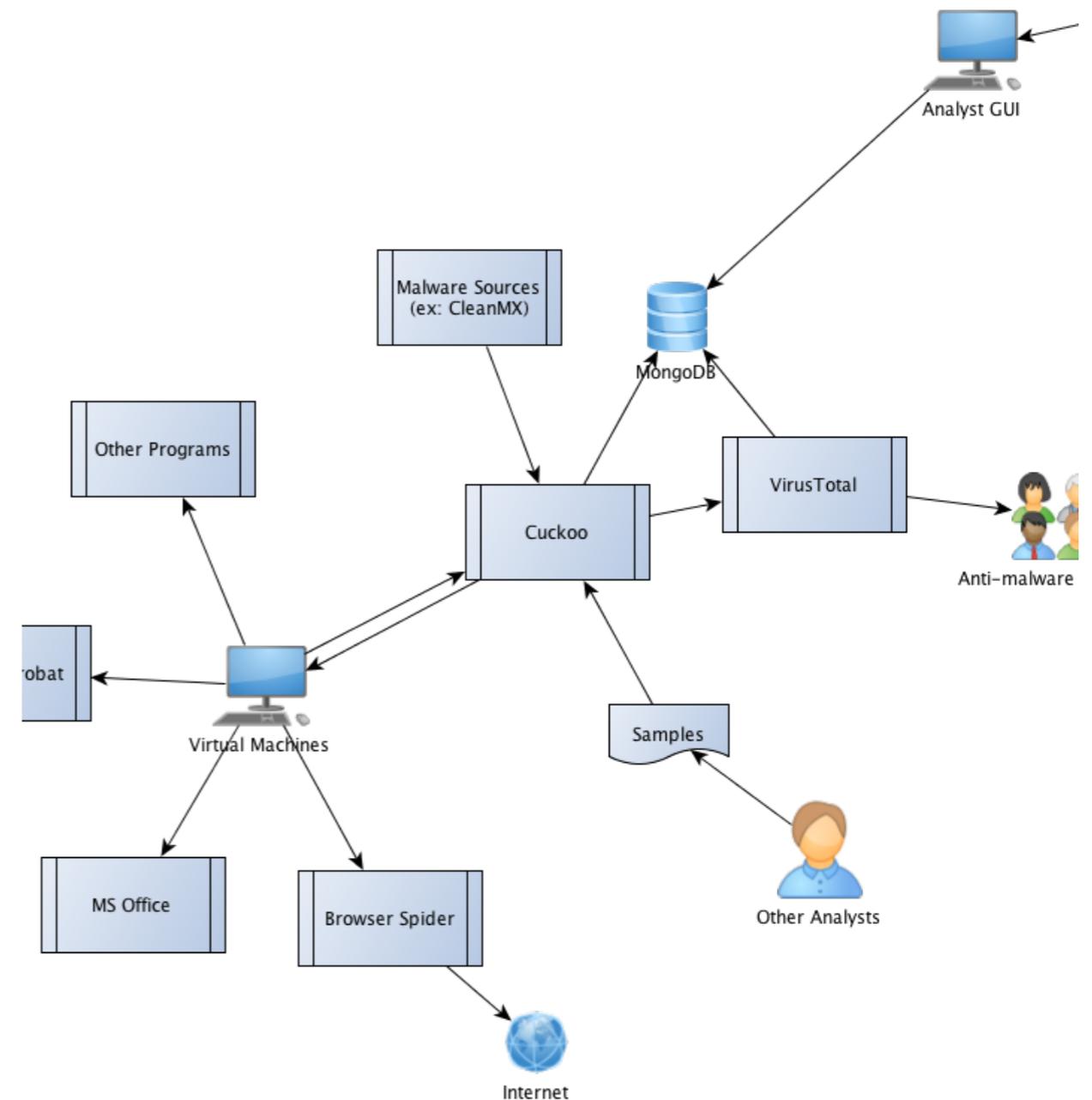
# Components





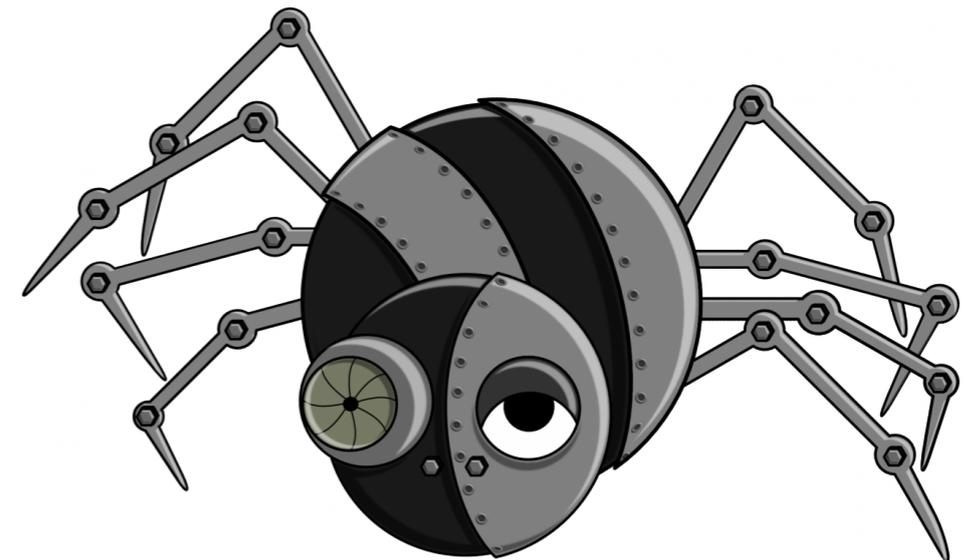
# Sample Acquisition

- Public & Private Collections
  - Clean MX
  - Malware.lu
  - Etc.
- Exchange with other malware analysts
  - You know who you are
- Finding and collecting malware yourself
  - Download files from the web
  - Grab attachments from email
  - Feed **BrowserSpider** with links from your SPAM-folder



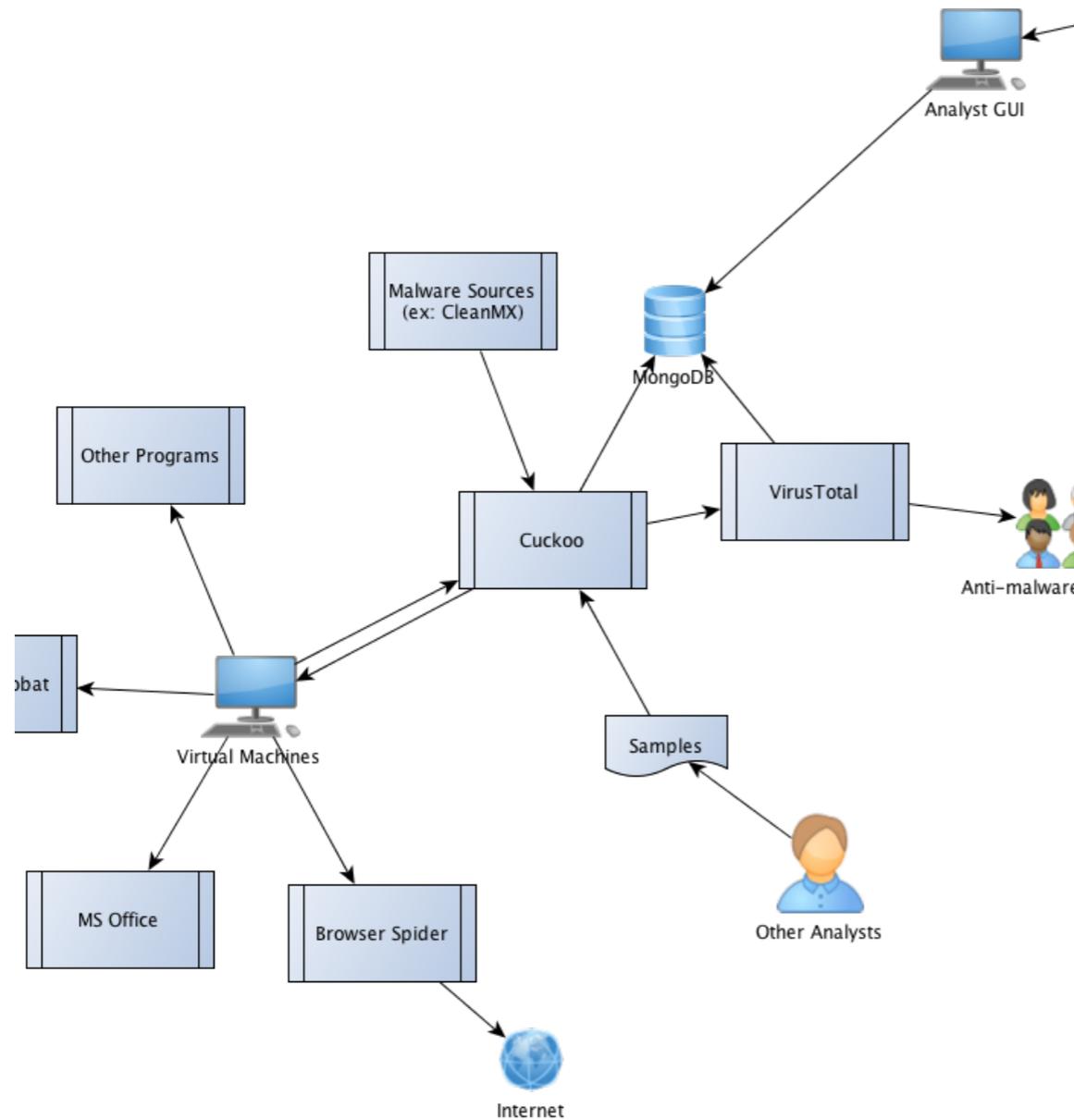
# BrowserSpider

- Written in Python
- Using the Selenium framework to control REAL browsers
  - Flash, PDFs, Java applets etc. executes as per normal
  - All the browser bugs exists for real
- Spiders and follows all links seen



# Sample Analysis

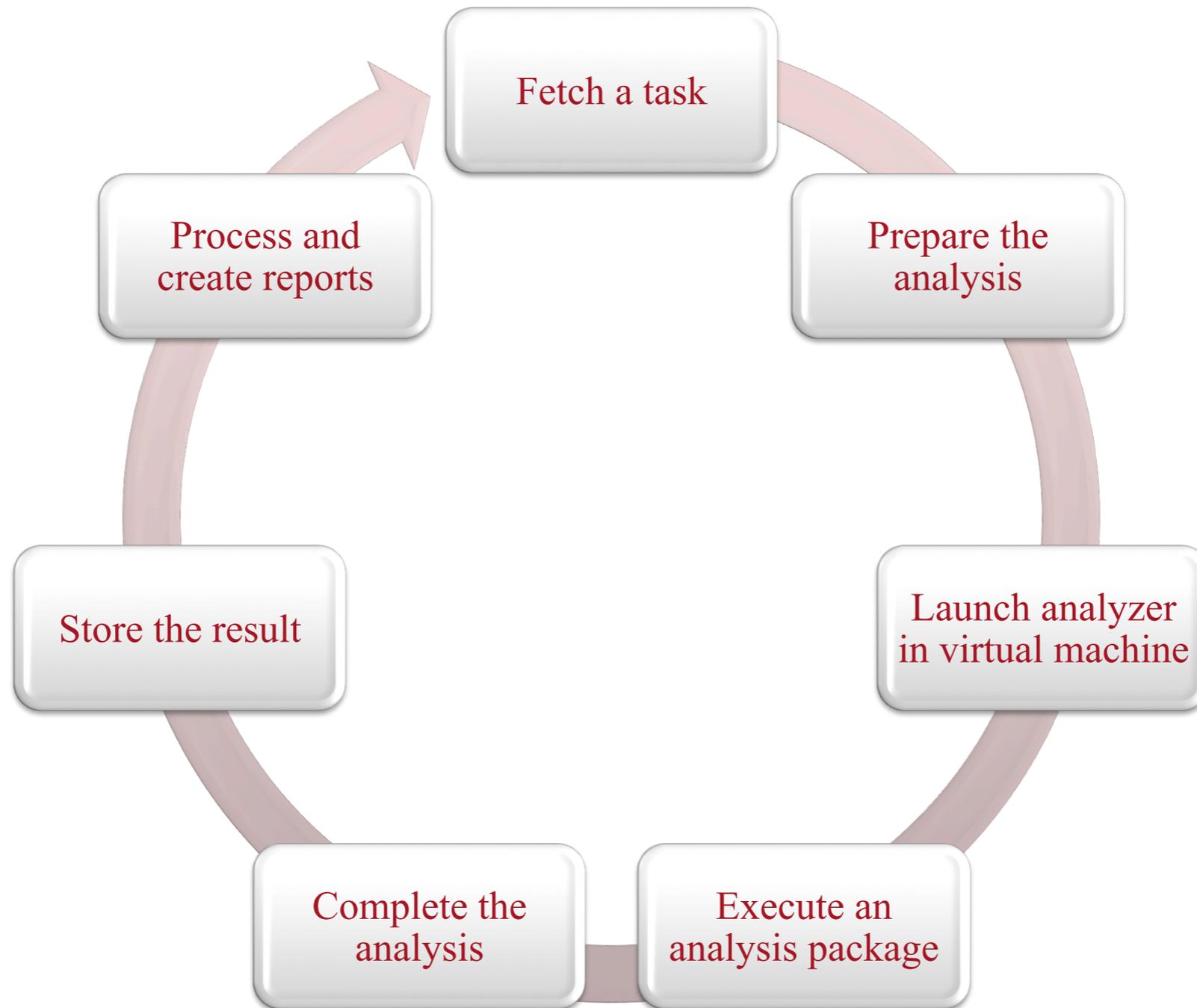
- Cuckoo Sandbox
- VirusTotal



# DEMO: Submit sample for analysis



# A days work for a Cuckoo





## New Analysis

use this form to add a new analysis task

File to upload  No file chosen

Package to use

Options

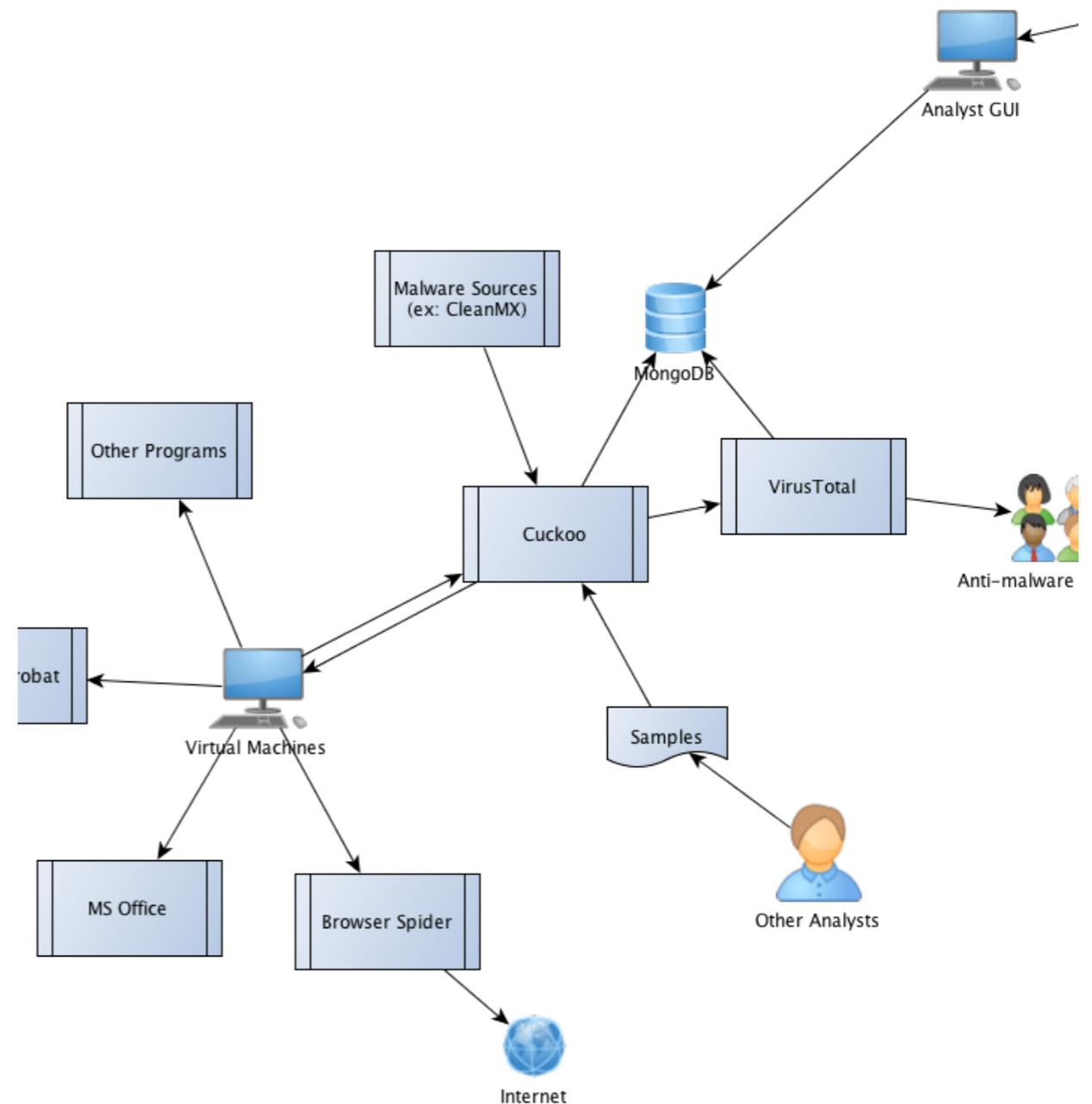
Timeout

Priority

# Sample Reporting

Results are stored in MongoDB  
(optional, highly recommended)

Accessed using a analyst GUI





[File](#) [Signatures](#) [Screenshots](#) [Static](#) [Dropped](#) [Network](#) [Behavior](#)

## File Details file indicators

File name:	MART-app.exe
File size:	21504 bytes
File type:	PE32 executable (console) Intel 80386, for MS Windows
CRC32:	561F1BFA
MD5:	18b2708009f0efb6b12e39876bb4f87a
SHA1:	149ca9c7a81d9b1049a5a2e7f321e0f34c7e9c7b
SHA256:	dc9de3ecc7ddb2ee1e9bfe61e6891de945cc42d2a9c8bb2f6f1380c7f645ddd
SHA512:	07d4fe457d5c10d371053ea49e37fe705bbaf4dd1e0dafd57d16778f155e3de4c29d26d771aeede6be57b9fd790a044f17ef6e23abe20bde58bf6c430e990cc6
Ssdeep:	None
PEiD Signatures:	• Pelles C 3.00, 4.00, 4.50 EXE (X86 CRT-LIB)
Yara Signatures:	None matched
Antivirus Results:	File not found on VirusTotal

## Signatures matched cuckoo signatures

## Signatures matched cuckoo signatures

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Creates a empty file

## Screenshots pictures of the desktop during execution

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## Static Analysis binary details

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[Sections](#)

[Imports](#)

## Dropped Files files created or deleted by the malware

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[ntfs.txt](#)

[text.txt](#)

## Network Analysis network activity performed during analysis

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[Hosts Involved](#)

[DNS Requests](#)

[HTTP Requests](#)

## Behavior Analysis details on the malware execution

## Behavior Analysis details on the malware execution

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### Summary

#### Files

- `text.txt`
- `ntfs.txt:ntfs`
- `ntfs.txt`

#### Mutexes

Nothing to display.

#### Registry Keys

Nothing to display.

### Processes

**MART-app.exe** PID: 3824, Parent PID: 3804

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# Data Mining

# Malware attribution

Black Hat USA 2010: Greg Hoglund: Malware attribution and fingerprinting

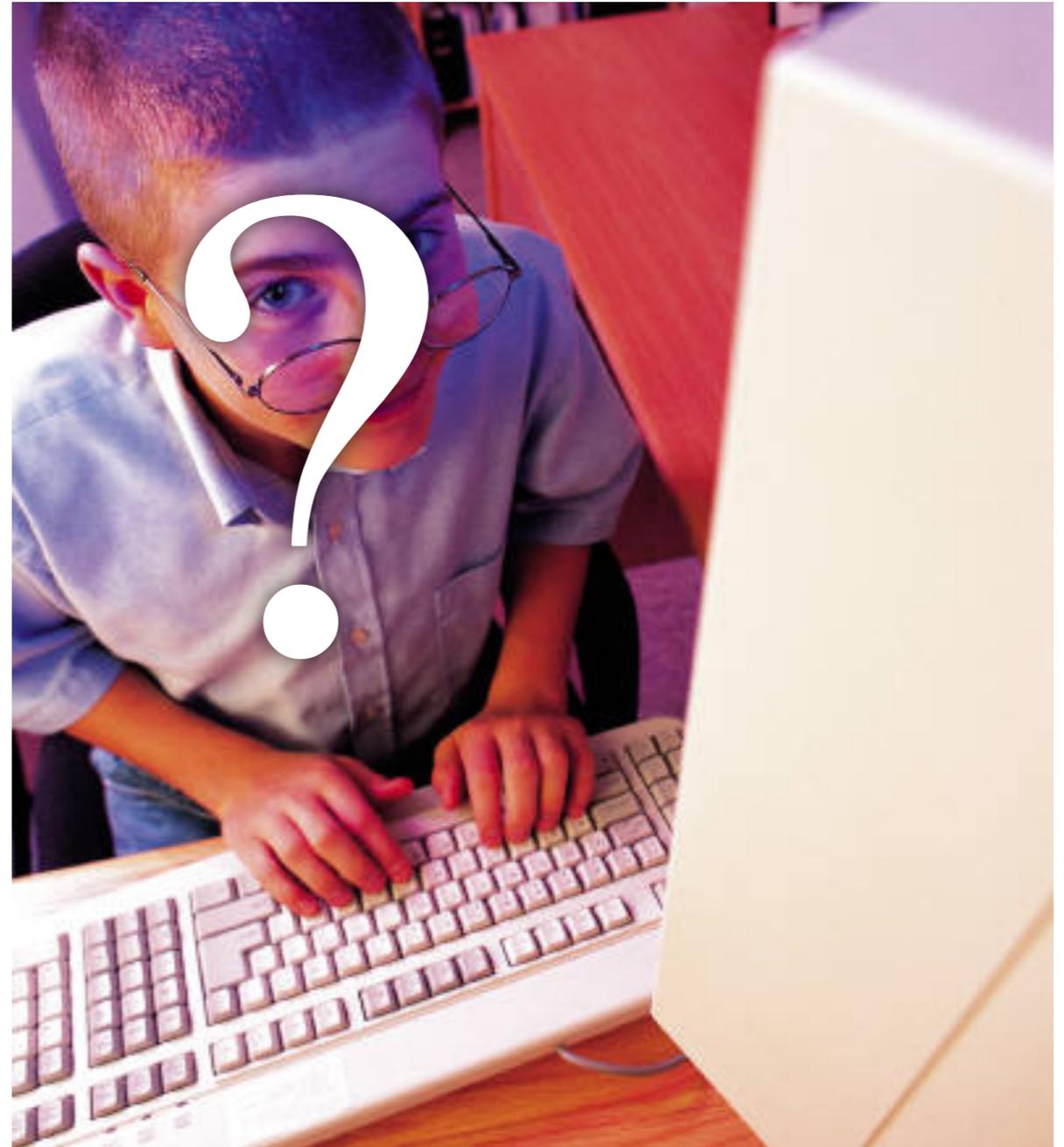


# Where Virtual Machine analysis fails

And what to do about it

# Problems

- User-detection
- Sleeping malware
- Multi-stage attacks



# Problems



- VM or Sandbox detection
- The guest OS might not be sufficient enough

# Iterating automation



Known Good	Known Bad
Unknown	

# Iterating automation



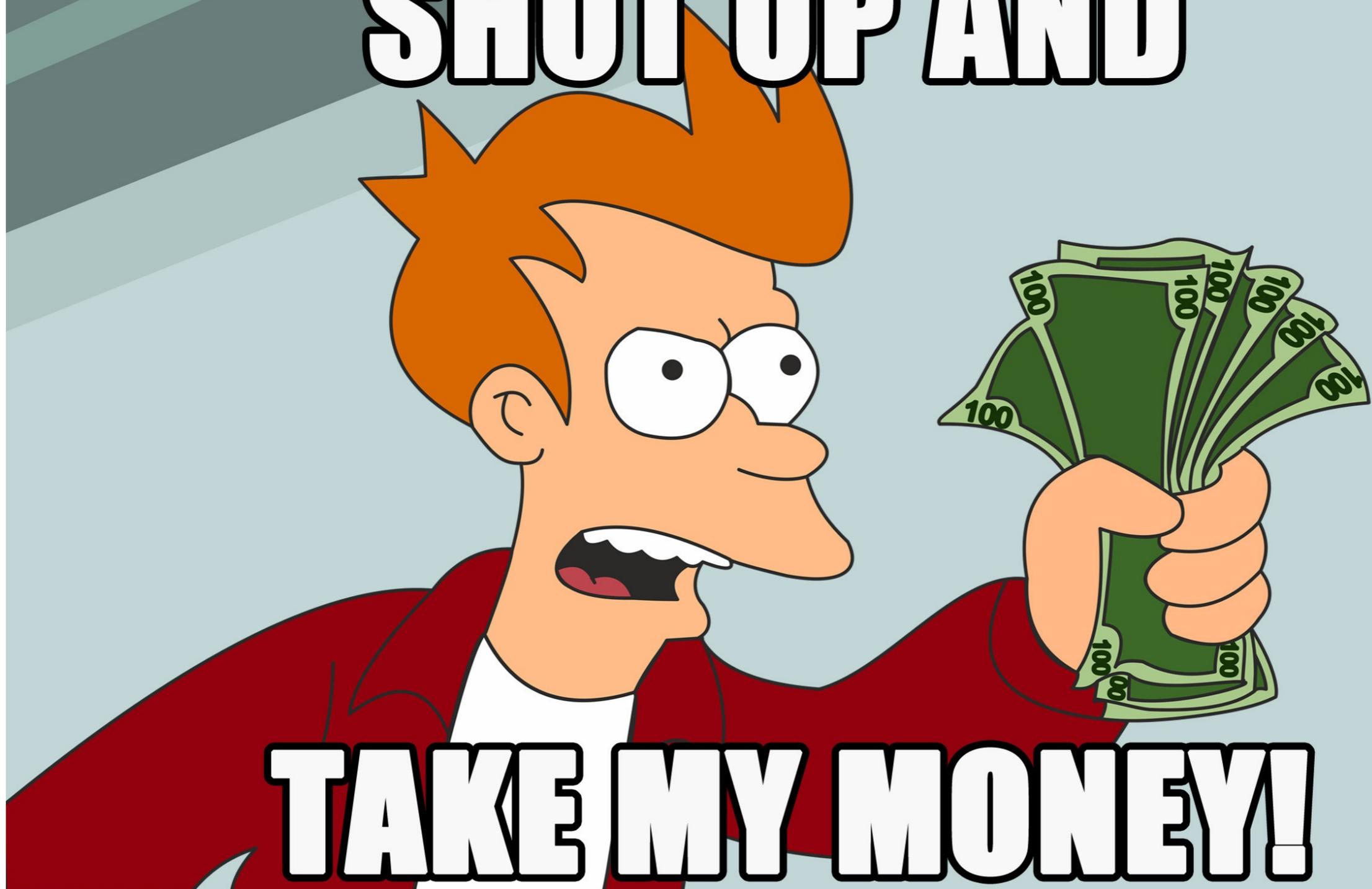
- Does not do anything
- Detects environment
- Encrypted segments
- Failed execution

# Iterating automation



- Run longer
- Envirnoment customization

**SHUT UP AND**



**TAKE MY MONEY!**

# Budget

- Computer: €520
- MSDN License: €800 (€590 renewal)
- Year 1 (2012): €1320
- Year N (2013...): €590
- Money saved from stopped smoking (yearly): €2040



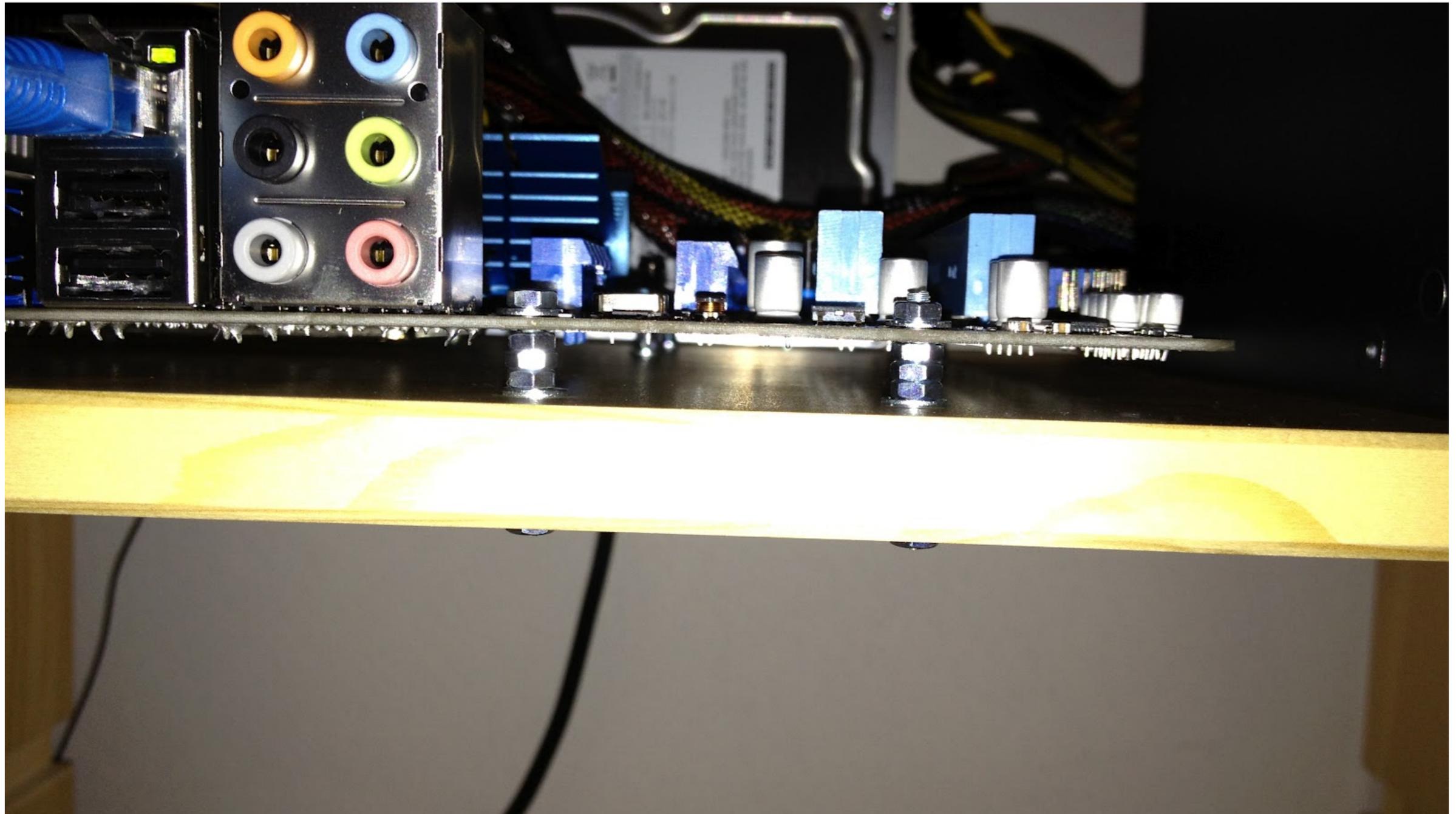
# Malware Lab



# MART Hardware (overview)



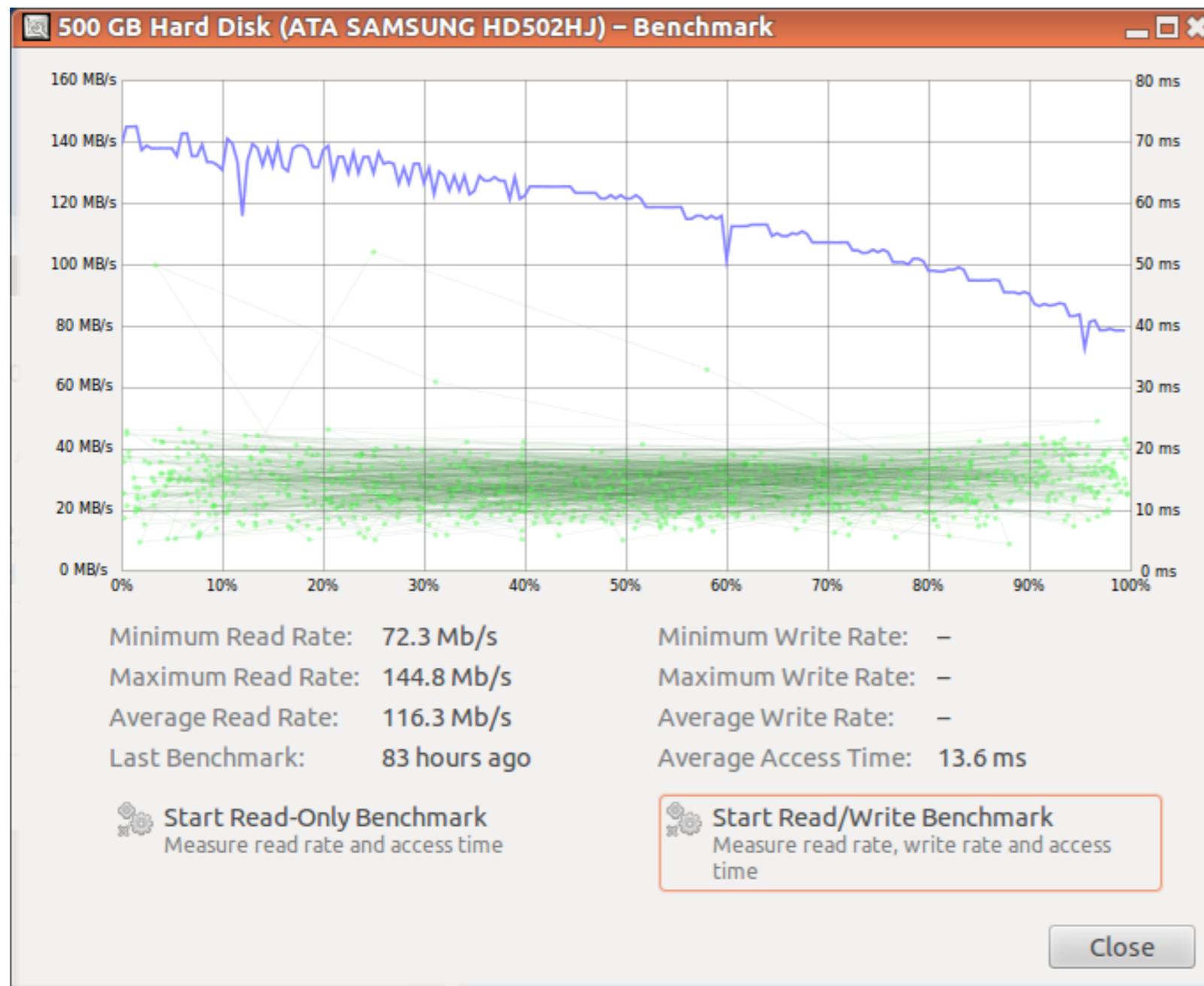
# MART Hardware (mounts)



# The need for speed

- Original setup couldn't run more than 2 virtual machines simultaneously
  - Disk I/O couldn't keep up

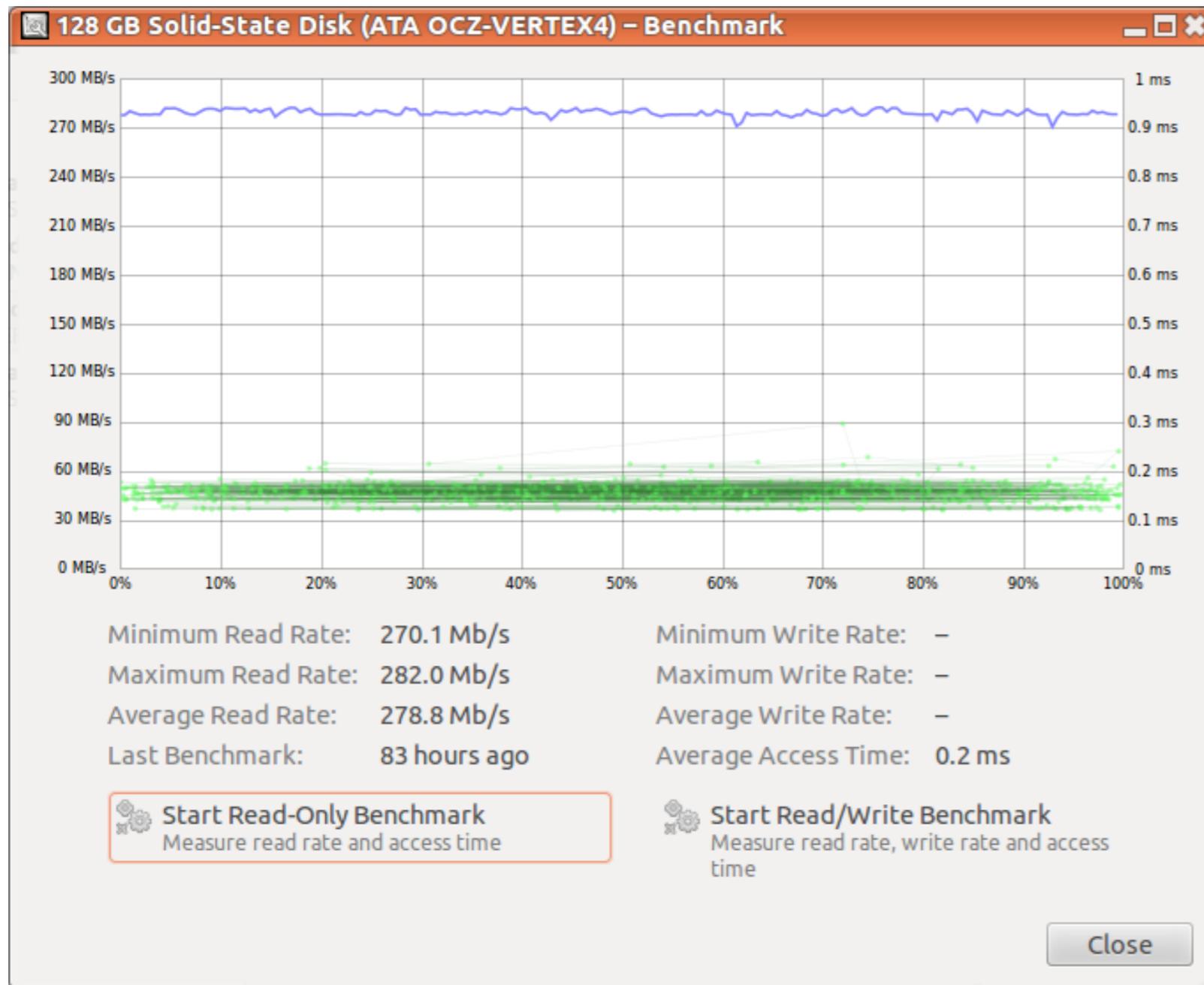
# MART Hardware (HDD)



**Transfer speed:**  
72-144 Mb/s

**Access time:**  
13.6 ms

# MART Hardware (SSD)



Transfer speed:

270-280 Mb/s

2x

Access time

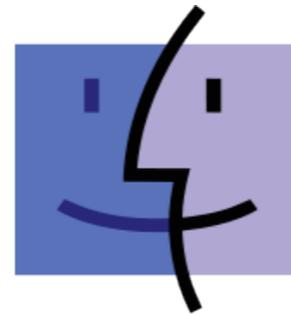
0.2 ms

68x

Running 3-4 machines simultaneously

## Next steps

1. Barebone on-the-iron malware analysis
2. Android platform support
3. OSX platform support
4. iOS platform support



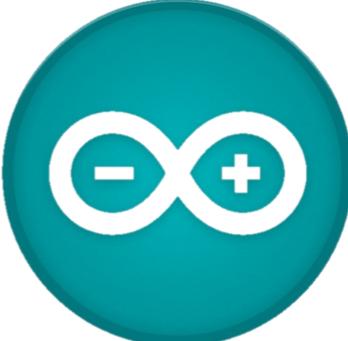
Mac<sup>TM</sup> OS

iOS

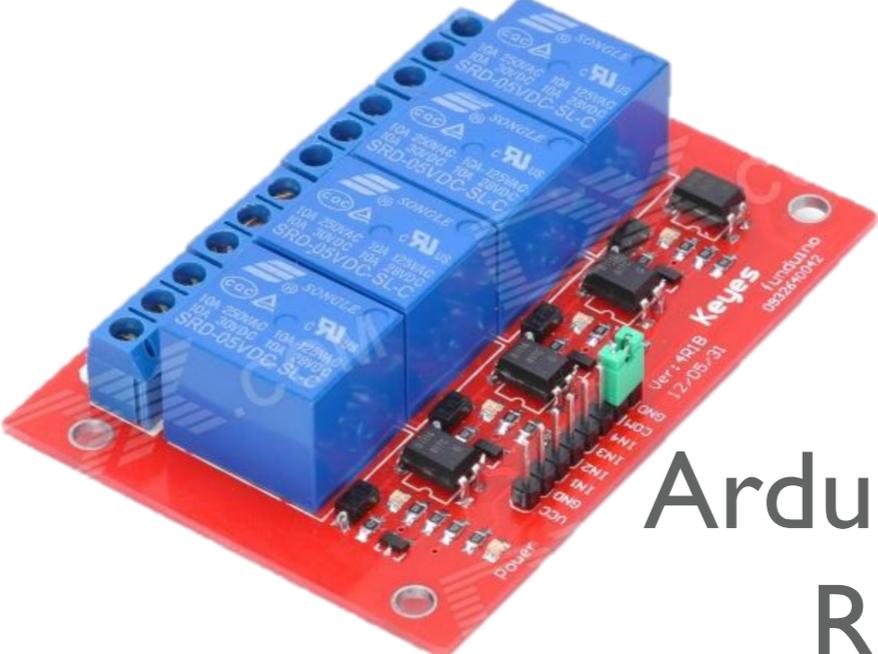
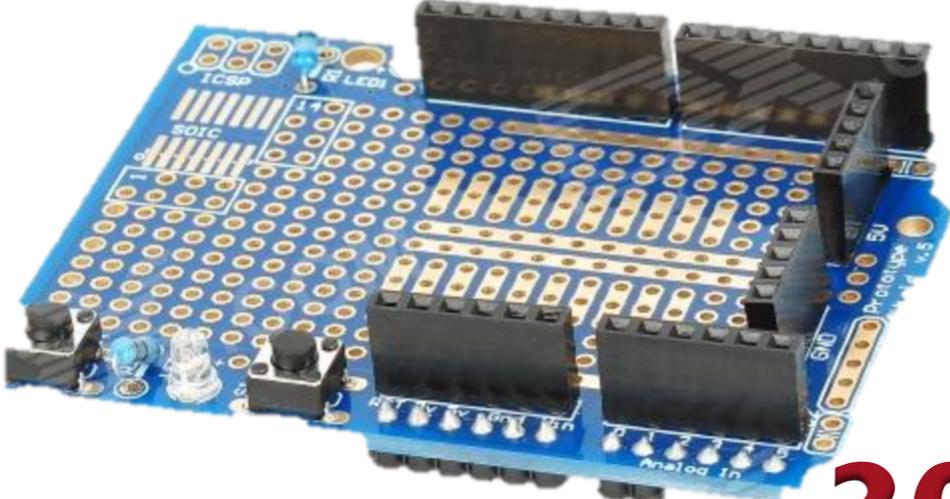
# Existing barebone implementations

- BareBox
  - BareBox: Efficient Malware Analysis on Bare-Metal
  - Dhilung Kirat, Giovanni Vigna, Christopher Kruegel
  - ACSAC 2011
  - No code has been released
- NVMTrace
  - Entrapment: Tricking Malware with Transparent, Scalable Malware Analysis
  - Paul Royal
  - Blackhat 2012 EUROPE
  - Requires special hardware (Intelligent Platform Management Interface [IPMI])

# Proof of Concept hardware

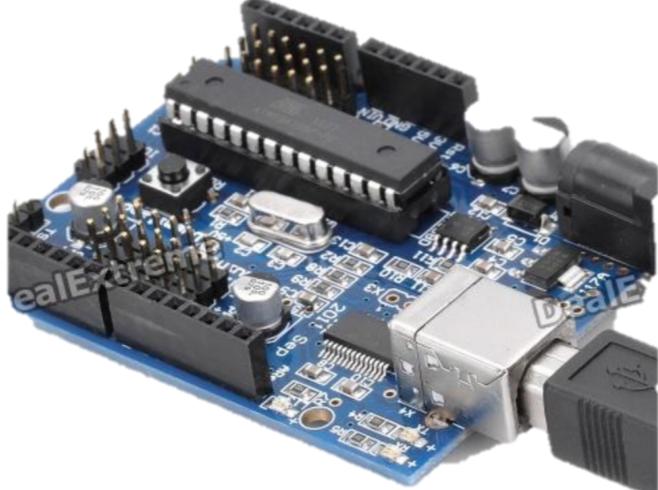


Prototype Shield



Arduino 4-Channel Relay Shield

**300 SEK**  
**(€~30)**



Arduino Duemilanove



Ethernet Shield



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# Questions?

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