

Steganographic AVI Filesystems for fun and profit

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Introduction

Introduction

In 30 seconds or less

Paul Sebastian Ziegler



Pentester





Ninja Penguin Limited

Chief Executive Penguin Trainer

Artificial Intelligence

**Make my computers act
on their own.**

That's what HE thinks!

Write code

Hack stuff

Things I do

Train ninja
penguins

Write books &
articles

Visit
observed.de
for more l33t-cred

Steganographic AVI File Systems

Securing your Data

**“I don’t want anyone to
be able to access my
data!”**

Great!

Cryptography!

Many algorithms
to choose from

Cryptography!

Many algorithms
to choose from

Variable strength
adapts to your
needs

Cryptography!

Many algorithms
to choose from

Variable strength
adapts to your
needs

Cryptography!

Algorithms are
rarely (*cough*)
broken

Many algorithms
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broken

Crypto Cascade +
Secure Passphrase =
Secured data for 5
years



YOU

Me?

A CRYPTO NERD'S
IMAGINATION:

HIS LAPTOP'S ENCRYPTED.
LET'S BUILD A MILLION-DOLLAR
CLUSTER TO CRACK IT.



WHAT WOULD
ACTUALLY HAPPEN:

HIS LAPTOP'S ENCRYPTED.
DRUG HIM AND HIT HIM WITH
THIS \$5 WRENCH UNTIL
HE TELLS US THE PASSWORD.



Airport



Airport

Yeah, well need
to check your
computer.



Solutions

**Don't possess the
passphrase**

**Transmit data through separate
channel**

Physically hide the data

Thou shall
not pass!



(That, or the wrench)



Introducing Super Hero #1

Steganography

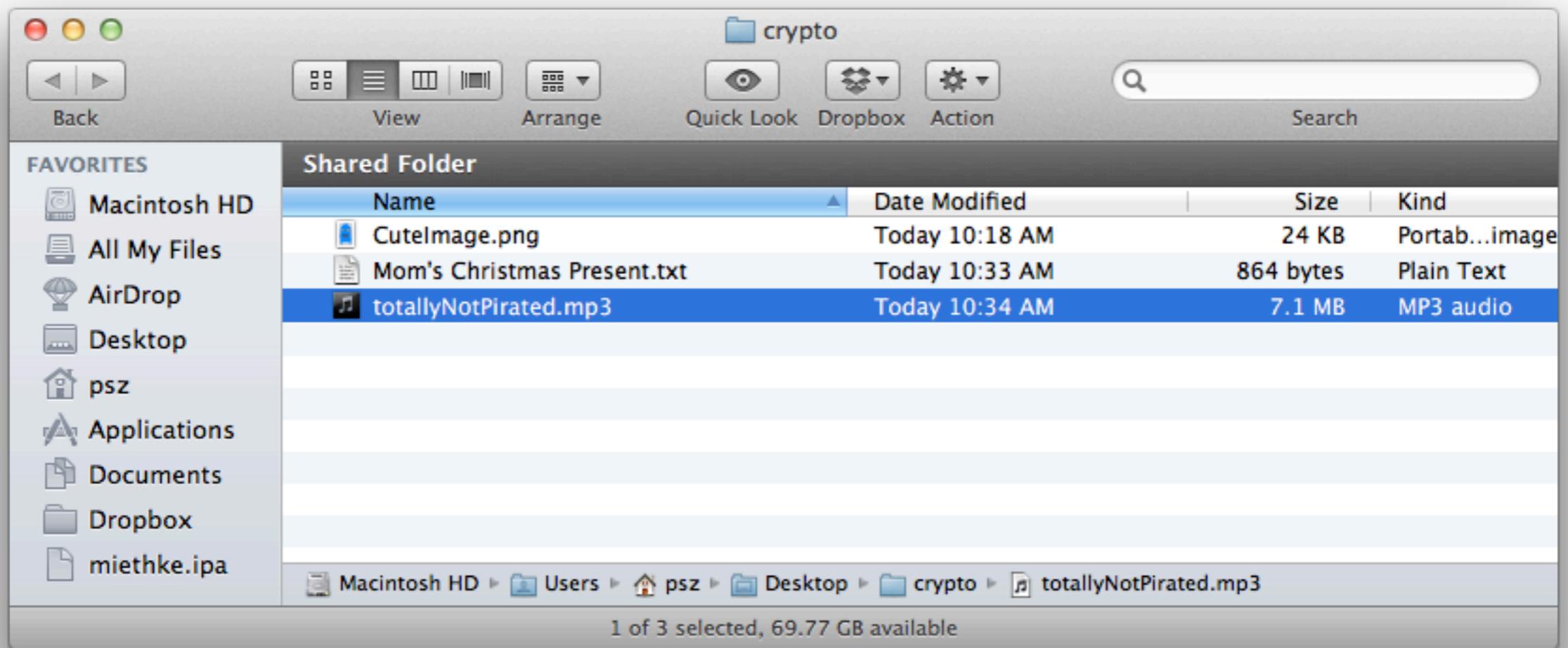
**“Hey, Truecrypt does
that!”**

Truecrypt 7.0a

- Hidden partitions
- Hidden volume within
crypto container
- Hidden OS

3 Problems

Need for fake outer partition



Partition Overwriting



Cool.
Just write one gig
of data to that disk
and we'll let you
go.



Transporting lots of data

I **always** travel
with **5 1-terabyte-disks**
containing only **15MB**
each!





Introducing Super Hero #2

File-Based Steganography!

Plausible Deniability

What? That picture
I got from flickr contained
a hidden message?
Great Scott!



Carrying lots of data

Scenario:



Male

18-30

3TB of data

Scenario A:



Male

18-30

3TB of data

5 1-terabyte-
harddrives
containing 150MB
each

Scenario B:



Male

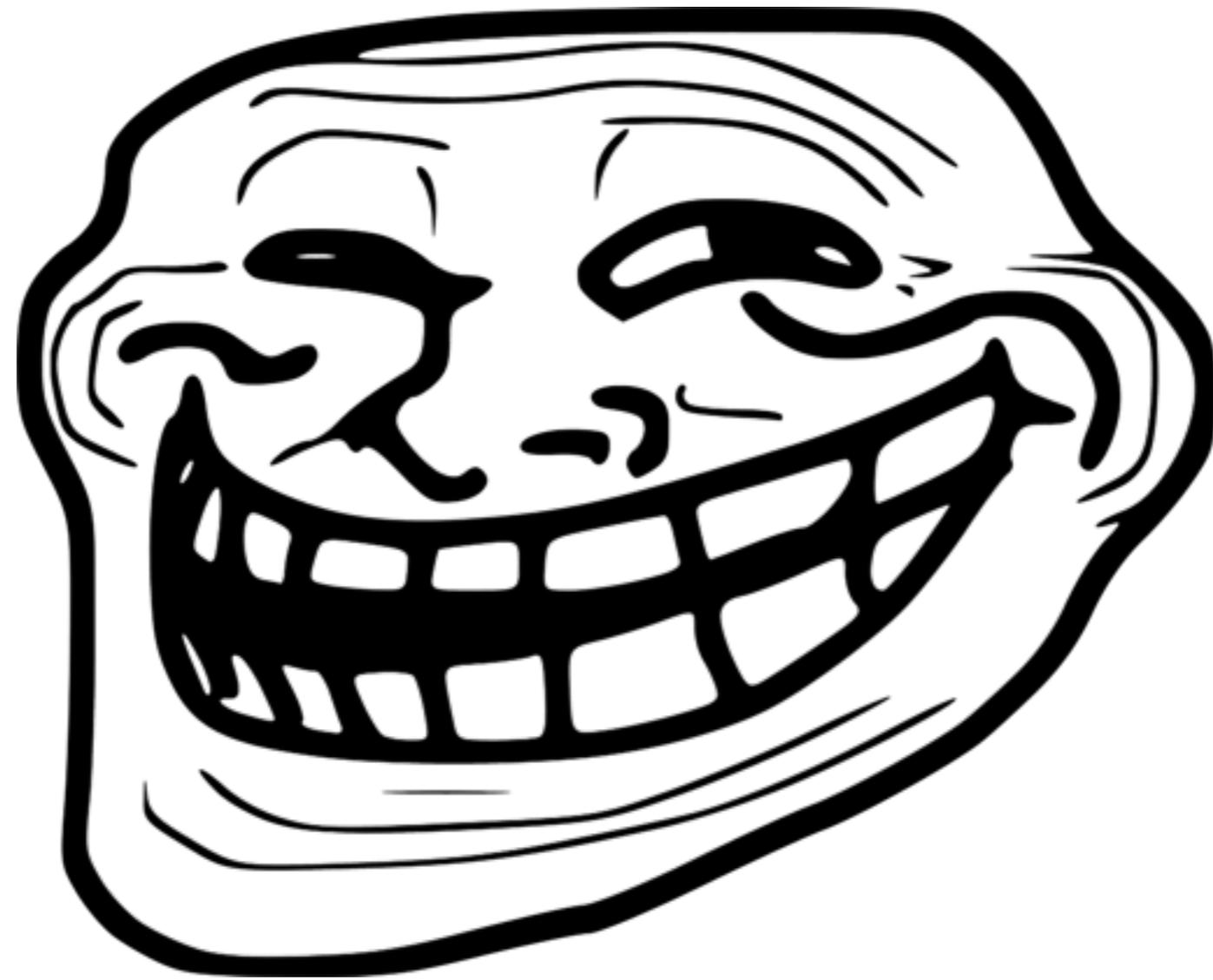
18-30

3TB of data

5 terabytes of
“miscellaneous”
video files

Sharing through open channels





Problem?

Yes, actually.

**Storing and accessing
data is tiresome**

Carrying specialized tools for access

Don't mind my
400GB picture collection
and the folder labeled
“steganographic imaging
toolset”



**Can't be modified while
hidden**

**Files need to be de-
cloaked to be accessed**



Let's address **some** of
these issues

Introducing

MarriaFS

Put your
money where your
mouth is!



-- Cut at the perforated line --

-- Cut at the perforated line --

Goals

Goals

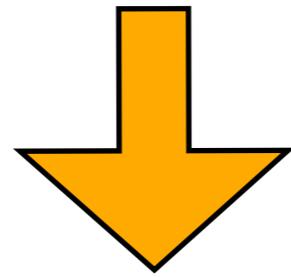
- **Easy** to use
- Reasonably **fast**
- Unsuspicious in **airport setting**
- **Clear** language

Problem	Solution
Hiding Files	Steganography
Carrying Lots of Files	File Based Steganography
Specialized Toolset	
Hard to use	
Needs to decrypt to alter	
Hard to alter, adapt, extend	

Problem	Solution
Hiding Files	Steganography
Carrying Lots of Files	Steganography in AVI Containers
Specialized Toolset	File System Driver (1 file)
Hard to use	Simple CLI usage (once, when mounting)
Needs to decrypt to alter	Steganography hidden from user
Hard to alter, adapt, extend	Python

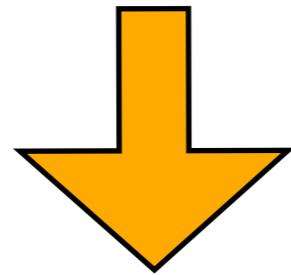
PornFS

PornFS



MariaFS

PornFS

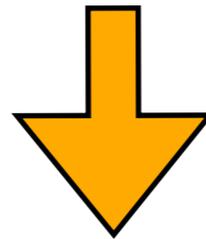


MariaFS

(Ask someone Japanese if you don't get the joke)

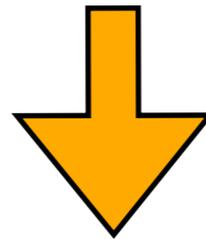
2_cups_1_girl_starbucks_commercial.avi

2_cups_1_girl_starbucks_commercial.avi

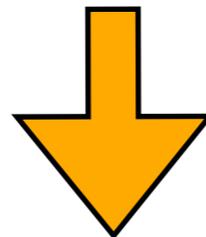


Mount using custom FUSE driver

2_cups_1_girl_starbucks_commercial.avi



Mount using custom FUSE driver



Provide data to user abstracted as FS

FUSE?

FUSE?

Filesystem in User Space

FUSE?

Filesystem in User Space

Allows fast FS implementation

FUSE?

Filesystem in User Space

Allows fast FS implementation

Supports many languages

Implemented in FUSE

- ntfs-3g
- GmailFS
- sshFS
- GVFS (Gnome)
- s3FS

Ideas for Infosec

- Write custom FS to nail down access policies, log, etc
- Specialized FS for honeypots
- Extend existing FS
- Write custom FS that returns the complete lyrics to Rick Astley's "Never gonna give you up" for every file read



AVI?

Very common

AVI?

Very common

AVI?

Large size
differences

Gap between
data and index

Very common

AVI?

Large size
differences

Gap between
data and index

Very common

AVI?

Large size
differences

Easy Structure

AVI File Structure

RIFF

Resource Interchange File Format

RIFF

Length

AVI

LIST

hdrl

hdrl data

movi

movi data

idx1

idx1 data

RIFF

Length

AVI

LIST

hdrl

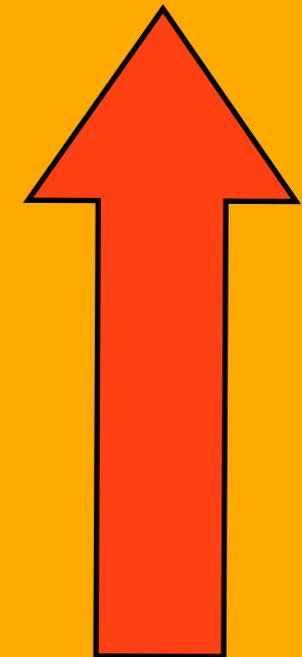
hdrl data

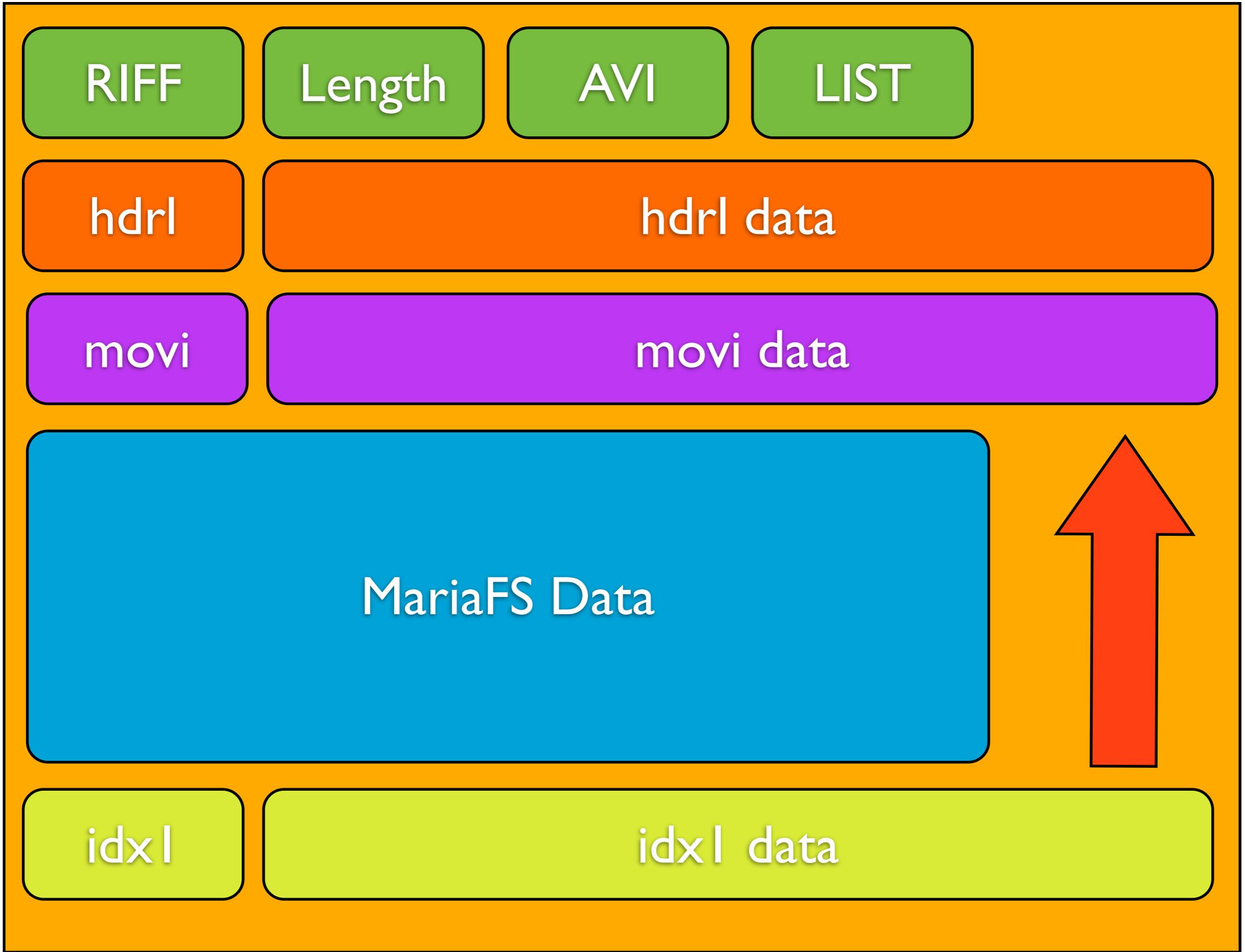
movi

movi data

idx1

idx1 data





RIFF

Length

AVI

LIST

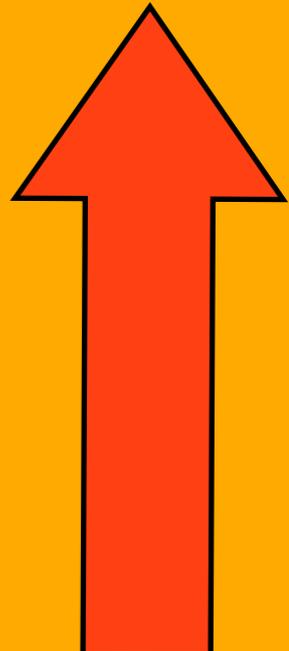
hdrl

hdrl data

movi

movi data

MariaFS Data



idxl

idxl data

Internals

Requirements

FUSE

OSXFuse

~~macFUSE~~

Requirements

FUSE

OSXFuse

~~macFUSE~~

Python 2.6+

Requirements

FUSE

OSXFuse

~~macFUSE~~

Python 2.6+

Requirements

FUSE-Python bindings

+

PyCrypto

FUSE

OSXFuse

~~macFUSE~~

Python 2.6+

Requirements

FUSE-Python bindings

+

PyCrypto

Tons o' RAM

creating

```
python mariaFS.py -c somefile.avi
```

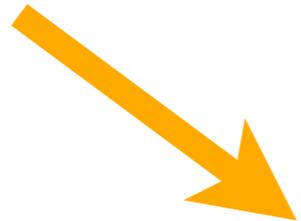
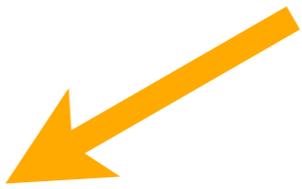
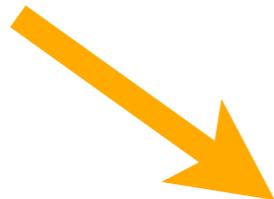
FS Markers
"VIDFSBEGIN"
"VIDFSEND"

Passphrase

AES

Encrypted
Markers

Insert before
IDX



mounting

```
python mariaFS.py somefile.avi \  
mountpoint/ -o allow_other
```

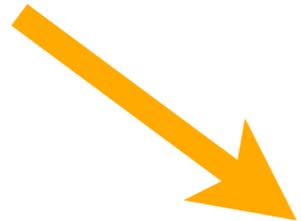
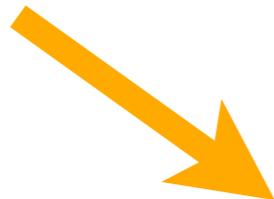
FS Markers
"VIDFSBEGIN"
"VIDFSEND"

Passphrase

AES

Encrypted
Markers

Encrypted
Markers in File?



deleting

```
python mariaFS.py -x somefile.avi
```

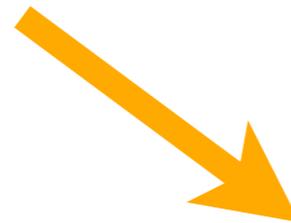
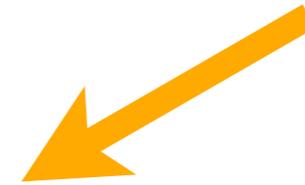
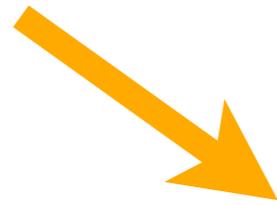
FS Markers
"VIDFSBEGIN"
"VIDFSEND"

Passphrase

AES

Encrypted
Markers

Delete everything
between markers



Markers

BEGINNING_MARKER_PLAIN = "VIDFSBEGIN"
END_MARKER_PLAIN = "VIDFSEND"
FILE_NAME_MARKER_PLAIN = "FILENAME"
FILE_STATS_MARKER_PLAIN = "FILESTATS"
FILE_DATA_MARKER_PLAIN = "FILEDATA"

FILENAMEDATADATADATA
FILESTATSDATADATADATA
FILEDATADATADATADATA

FILENAME DATADATADATA
FILESTATS DATADATADATA
FILEDATA DATADATADATA
FILENAME DATADATADATA
FILESTATS DATADATADATA
FILEDATA DATADATADATA
FILENAME DATADATADATA
FILESTATS DATADATADATA
FILEDATA DATADATADATA

VIDFSBEGIN

FILENAME DATADATADATA

FILESTATS DATADATADATA

FILEDATA DATADATADATA

FILENAME DATADATADATA

FILESTATS DATADATADATA

FILEDATA DATADATADATA

FILENAME DATADATADATA

FILESTATS DATADATADATA

FILEDATA DATADATADATA

VIDFSEND

Stats

atime|mtime|ctime|size|uid|gid

Detectability

Writing Data

File is mmaped

Writing Data

File is mmaped

Writing Data

New file created or old one
updated with fresh data / stats

File is mmaped

Writing Data

Rebuild mmap

New file created or old one
updated with fresh data / stats

File is mmaped

Return

Writing Data

Rebuild mmap

New file created or old one
updated with fresh data / stats

Speed

Read: 0.01 MB/s

Write: 0.2 MB/s

CACHE ALL THE
THINGS!



Speed

Read: 0.3 MB/s

Write: 2.5 MB/s

Main Demonstration

Limitations

Scalability

Maximum Number of Files

Scalability

Maximum Number of Files

Scalability

RAM Usage

Maximum Number of Files

Scalability

RAM Usage

Maximum File Size

Non-implemented FS Features

Simultaneous Access

Non-implemented FS Features

Simultaneous Access

Non-implemented FS Features

Access Controls

Simultaneous Access

Non-implemented FS Features

Access Controls

Devices

Code:

<http://observed.de/conferences/mariaFS.tgz>

Image Attributions

- pigpogm (page 4)
- xkcd (page 10)
- djwundi (page 34)
- skampy (page 45)
- logos of respective companies (page 54)
- steffenz (page 62)
- 60 in 3 (page 84)
- Hyperbole and a half (page 118)

Questions?
Ideas?
Bacon?

Thank you for listening!