

Code Signing

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Summary

Requirements for code signing can be (increasingly?) an issue

- Is this a problem?
- Should we (CoSADIE? IVOA?) be doing something to help?

Java

Since Java 1.7.0_51 (Jan 2014)

- MANIFEST file must contain `Permissions` attribute (“`sandbox`” or “`all-permissions`”)
- **All** jar files must be signed **by a trusted CA** (\$\$)
- If not, default security configuration (“High”) blocks running
- Affects “RIAs”: WebStart and applets
- User workarounds:
 - ▷ Degrade security setting to “Medium”
 - ▷ Use an older version of Java



Mac OS X

OSX Mountain Lion (at least) (I think)

- Doesn't like you to run applications not from the Apple App Store (\$\$)
"TOPCAT is damaged and can't be opened, you should eject the disk image"
- User workarounds:
 - ▷ Adjust global security settings (*GateKeeper?*)
 - ▷ Remove application "quarantine" flag:
`xattr -d com.apple.quarantine TOPCAT.app`
- Can this can be fixed by signing DMG with a trusted certificate?
... maybe, but I haven't worked out how (hackathon?)

Discussion

apps@ivoa.net, January 2014

- Laurent Bourgès identified Java issue
- Some suggestions that IVOA might buy/manage a code-signing certificate for use by IVOA members, managed by IVOA Document Librarian

Questions:

- Is this a problem for people?
- Does it make sense to purchase ID centrally:
 - ▷ Code-signing certificate? (\sim €150/year?)
 - ▷ Apple developer licence? (\sim \$ 99/year?)
- Can/should it be managed centrally? at IVOA level? at CoSADIE level?