

VT WSUS and U

or How I Learned to Stop Worrying
and Love the Update

Marc.DeBonis@vt.edu

Systems Architect, Sr. \ Manager

CIT→SETI→MIG

V1.1 - 061016

The reality of the matter



[
OS
Apps
]

Millions of lines of code lead to...

Bugs attract pests



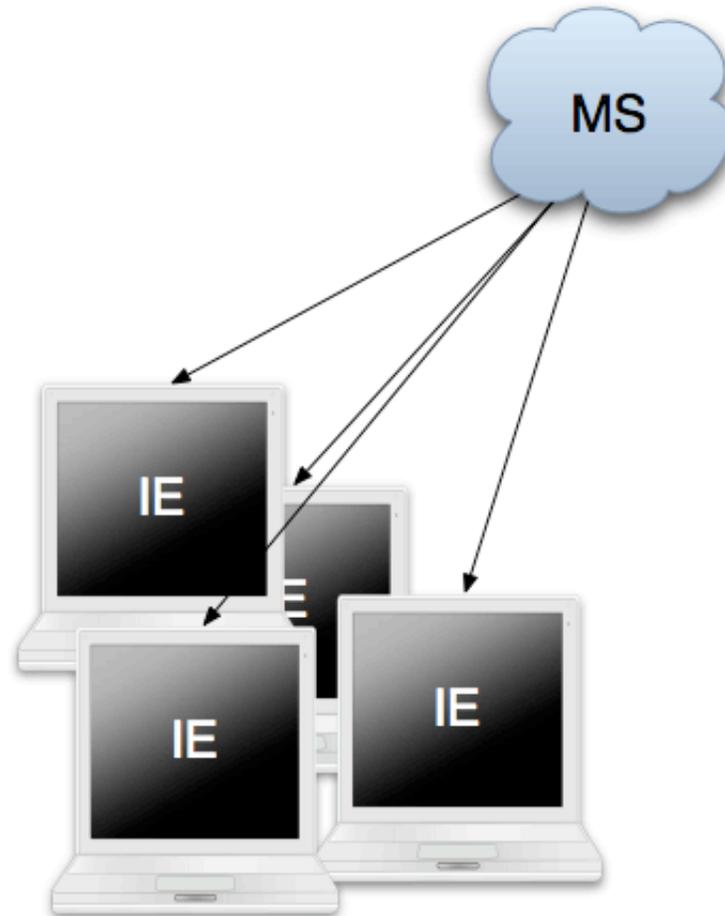
Timely updates are a necessity!

Update options - act the slacker



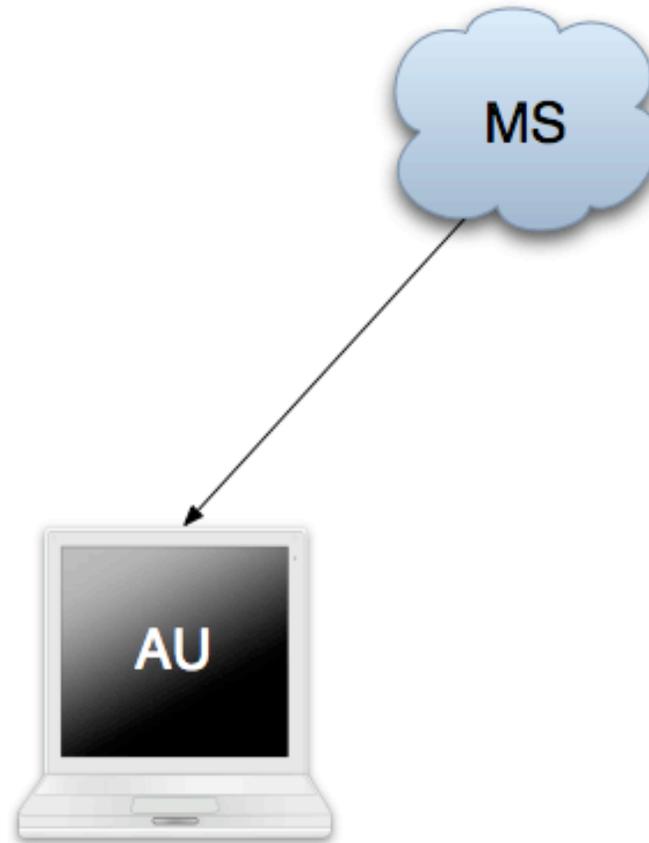
Do nothing...

Update options - have many arms...



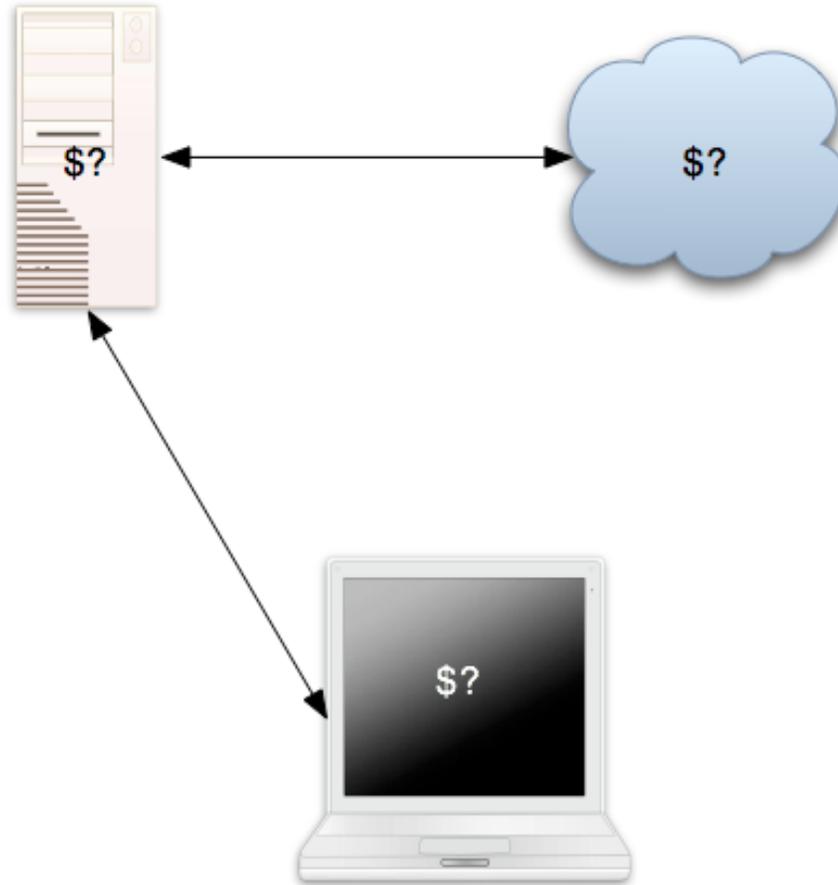
Manual updates via the web

Update options - FAF (fire and forget)



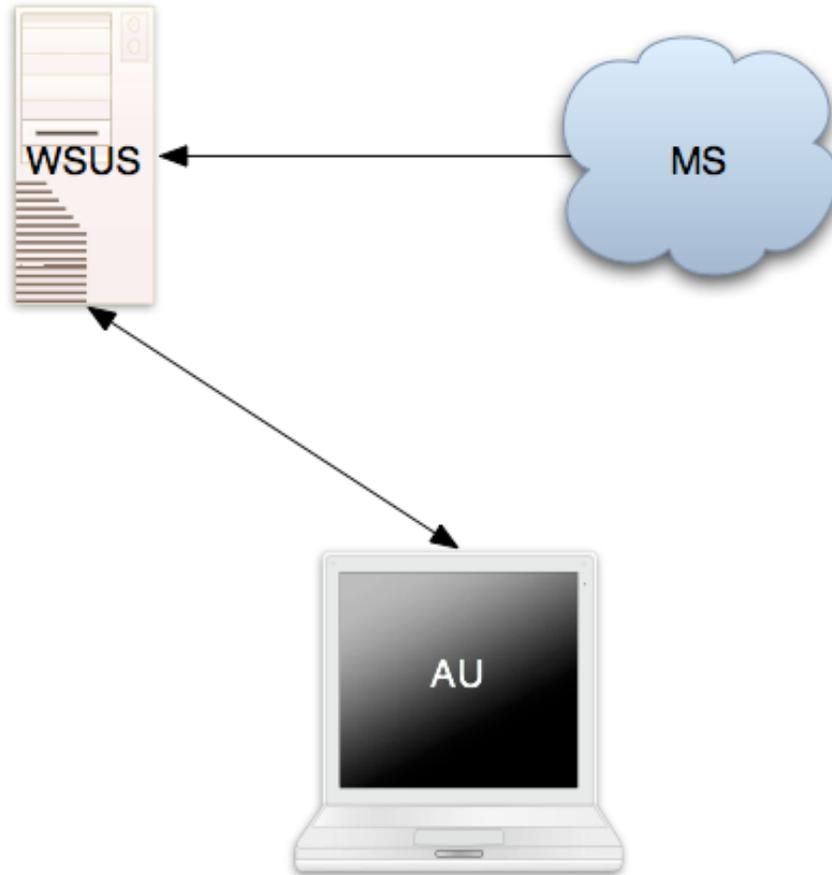
Use the built-in stuff and pray

Update options - pass the hat



3rd party tools? Maybe MS WSUS?

WSUS - the way it is

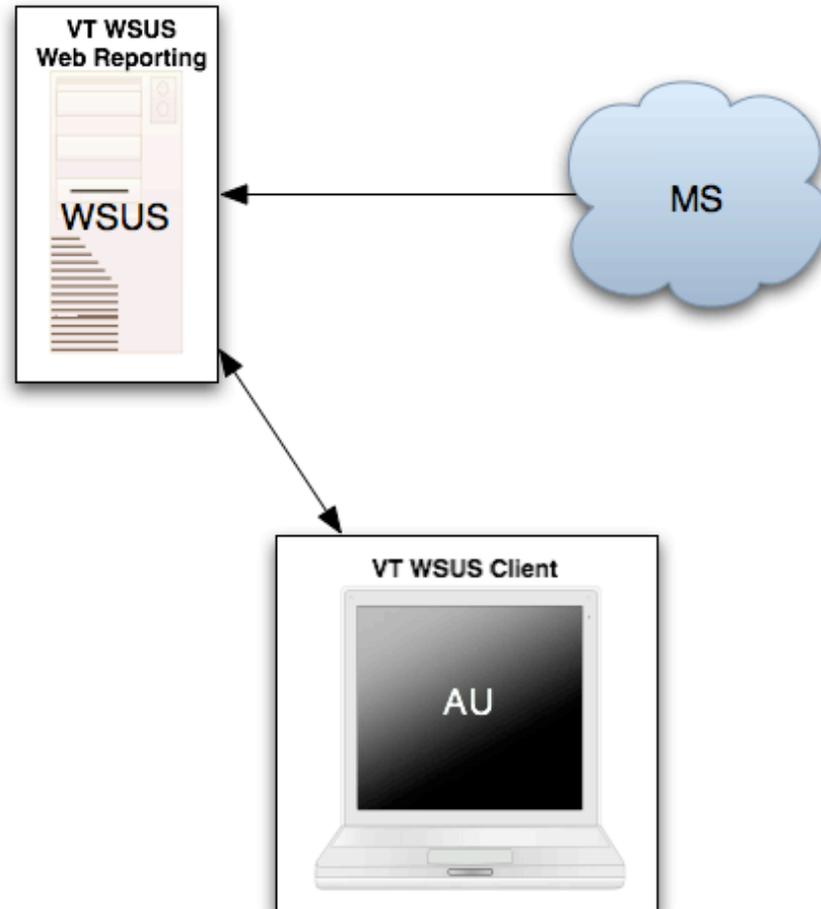


Middleman to the process

WSUS - some lumps and bumps

- .COM mindset
- Read/Write delegation
- Limited reporting
- Limited history
- No provisioning / No de-provisioning
- AU (Automatic Updates) client is dumb
- More...

WSUS - the mighty MIG way



It's all about abstraction...

VT WSUS “system” - bennies

- .EDU mindset
- Tiered delegation
- Robust reporting
- Lots and lots of historical data
- Provision / De-provisioning
- AU client is smartened up
- More...

VT WSUS Client = simplicity

1. Download client
2. Install client
3. Wait a bit... no, a bit longer than that...
4. Go to VT WSUS Web Reporting website
5. Check status of system
6. Take action if required

● ○ Status by smiley ○ ●

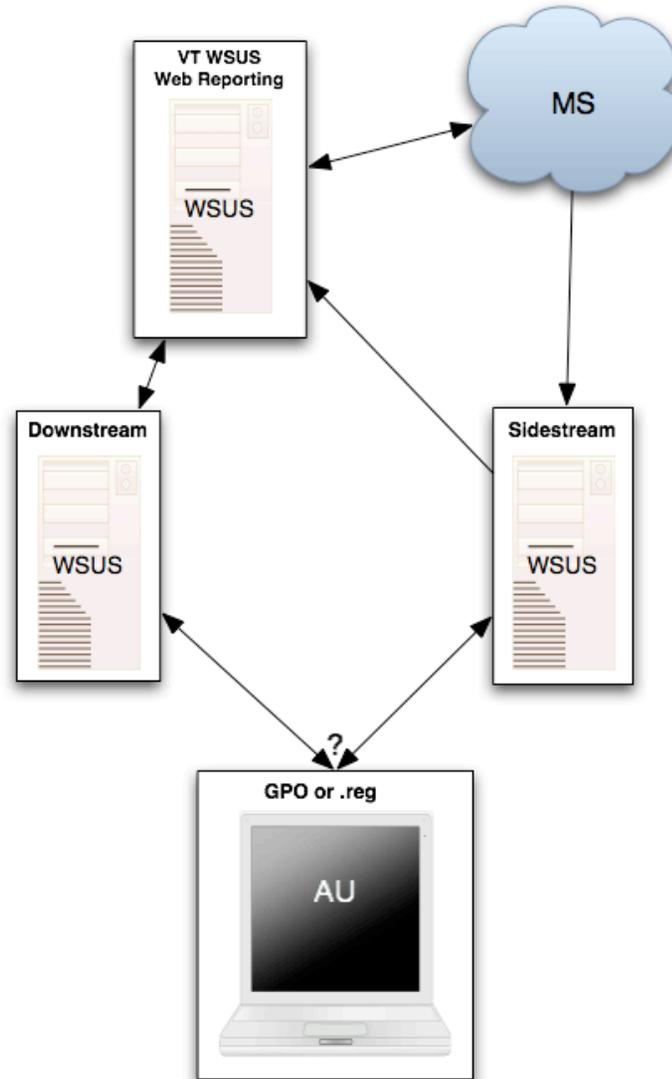


Jeepers creepers whose got the peepers?

- Person who installed the client
- OU admins (if the person who installed the client is in the OU)
 - Not an OU Admin yet? Gosh...
 - Search answers.vt.edu for “ou admin” for more info
- DIT admins*
- 4Help and Call Center staff



Client? We don't need no stinkin' client!



How does the flow go, Moe?

- Day 0
 - MS updates Tuesday (2nd Tuesday of every month)
- Day 1
 - VT WSUS gets updates
- Day 2
 - 4Help approves updates
- Day 3⁺
 - VT WSUS Client (AU) downloads updates
- Day 4⁺
 - If user ignores AU's pleas it will automagically install and reboot at next 4am or as soon as possible after that*

Couple of client caveats to consider

- PID / Pwd required to install (F/S only)
- Firewall rules may be necessary
- Client expires eventually
- Using client doesn't preclude you using Microsoft Update / Windows Update
- Uninstall / Expiring client reverts AU settings but leaves updates installed

The acronym of safe computing - **PDR**

- **P**revention

- Avoid systems running with insecure software

- **D**etection

- Discover these insecure systems proactively

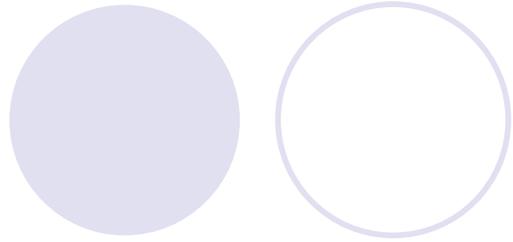
- **R**emediation

- Update these systems in a timely manner

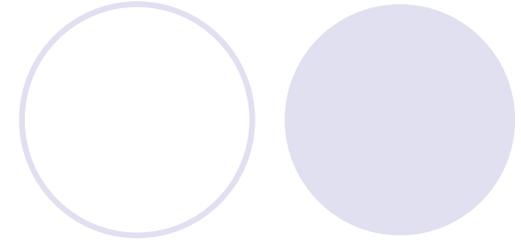


Many thanks! Sponsors, Alpha and Beta testers

- Mary Dunker
- Joyce Landreth
- Carl Harris
- William Dougherty
- Dean Kirstein
- Julia Mays
- Kevin Davis
- Doug Edmonds
- Karl Larson
- Carolyn Rader
- Brian Srygley
- Ron Angert
- Doug Atwater
- Kim Homer
- Steve Chiles
- Jason Christian
- Richard Clutter
- James Dunson
- JR Fleeman
- Carolyn Furrow
- Clark Gaylord
- Michael Harvey
- Ken Wieringo
- Anyone I forgot!



Q&A?



Any questions?

Oh... one more thing...

- VT WSUS is officially production TODAY!
- Starting using it NOW
 - Go to computing.vt.edu
 - Select Security and Viruses
 - Select VT WSUS

