

# Systems Design and Security



## Part 2: Information Security

<http://staffwww.dcs.shef.ac.uk/people/A.Simons/>

Home  $\Rightarrow$  Teaching  $\Rightarrow$  Lectures  $\Rightarrow$   
COM2008/COM3008



# Bibliography

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- Software Engineering
  - I Sommerville. Software Engineering, 10<sup>th</sup> ed., Pearson, 2016. Part 2: Dependability and Security, Chaps. 10-14.
  - R S Pressman, B R Maxim. Software Engineering: A Practitioner's Approach, 9<sup>th</sup> ed., McGraw-Hill, 2019. Part 3: Quality and Security, Chaps. 15-18.
- Security Engineering
  - R Anderson. Security Engineering, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., John Wiley, 2008.
    - Also online: <https://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/~rja14/book.html>
  - M Goodrich, R Tamassia. Introduction to Computer Security, Pearson, 2010.





# Outline

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- Security threats
  - How they're out to get you
- Vulnerabilities
  - Technical and social attacks
- Countermeasures
  - Technical and social defences
- Security policies
  - Succinct statement of protection strategies
- Legal obligations
  - Data Protection, Computer Misuse, GDPR

Reading: Sommerville ch. 13-14; Anderson ch. 1-3





# Cyber Carjack!





Security bug allows remote attack of Uconnect system, letting hackers apply the brakes, kill the engine and take control of steering over the internet


**Samuel Gibbs**  
@SamuelGibbs


Tuesday 21 July 2015  
15.30 BST

 Shares  Comments

**6695** **407**

 Save for later



The Jeep Cherokee is vulnerable to remote cyberattack that allows hackers to take control. Photograph: NRMA Motoring and Services/Flickr

[the Guardian, 21 July 2015]

Uconnect system security bug allows remote take-over of Jeep Cherokee

- brakes
- engine
- steering



# Cybersecurity

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- Hot topic
  - huge cyber threat increase in last decade
  - not just white hat, black hat hackers
  - organised criminals, nation states
  - cyber attack ranked **#3 threat** to UK
    - after terrorism, espionage, cybercrime, WMD proliferation
- Domains [<https://www.cpni.gov.uk/national-security-threats>]
  - financial (credit cards, bank details)
  - information (state secrets, exam papers)
  - software (downloaded, uploaded programs)
  - hardware (aircraft, nuclear power stations)
  - democracy (troll armies, social media harvesting)

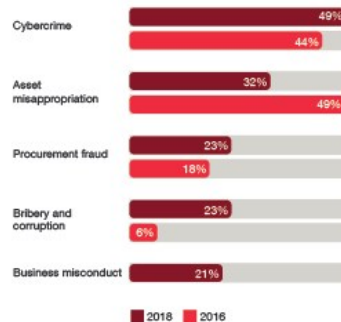
# UK/Global Fraud

## Know what fraud looks like

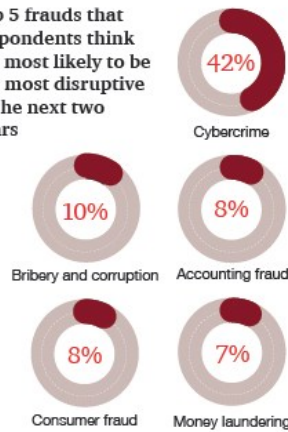


50% of UK respondents reported experiencing economic crime in the past 24 months, in line with the global average of 49% and a reduction in the UK from 55% compared to 2016.

### Top 5 types of reported fraud in 2018:



Top 5 frauds that respondents think are most likely to be the most disruptive in the next two years



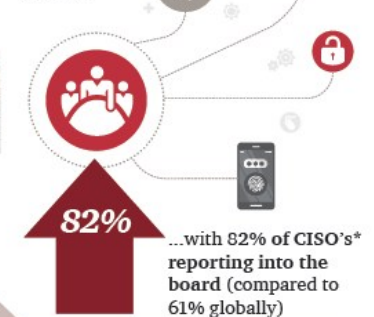
\$ lost through fraud in the past 24 months



55% of frauds were committed by external perpetrators (Global: 40%). 33% were committed by internal perpetrators (Global: 52%)



Cybercrime is high on the agenda for UK boards...

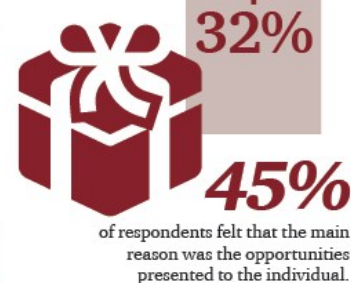


19% of frauds were detected through fraud risk management and 15% were detected by internal audit.

The success of suspicious transaction monitoring (from 22% in 2016 to 10% in 2018) and data analytics (8% to 1%) has declined in the UK.

24% have been asked to pay a bribe in the last two years – up from 5% in 2016.

\*CISO – Chief Information Security Officer



[<https://www.pwc.co.uk/services/forensic-services/insights/global-economic-crime-survey-2018---uk-findings.html>]



# Cyber Attack Types

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- Deliberately cause havoc, for fun
  - early so-called "white hat" hackers
- Obstruct, block, deny your services
  - online bots posting millions of requests
- Snoop on, steal from, impersonate you
  - phishing, social engineering, pretexting
- Modify, delete, damage your data
  - viruses, trojans, ransomware
- Manipulate public opinion, fake news
  - robot Twitter accounts, troll-farms
- Subvert elections, referenda, democracy



# Fake News: Facebook



[<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/michael-gove-boris-johnson-brexit-euro-sceptic-press-theresa-may-a7533806.html>]



[<https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/cliff-taylor-no-end-in-sight-for-fake-news-and-post-truth-1.3336523>]

**Fact check:** Brexit result cost 15 years' of EU membership *overnight* in lost value  
Since then, roughly £300m per week, or £20bn to 2022, or -1.3% GDP

[<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/brexit-uk-economy-losses-eu-referendum-result-billions-leave-european-union-a8081841.html>]



# Truth Crisis?

Complete denial of  
climate change

Political agenda  
based on fake news

- trade tariffs
- Mexican wall
- drain the swamp

Russian troll-farm  
involvement in US  
elections?



[<https://eu.usatoday.com/story/news/2022/09/06/analysis-trump-faces-gathering-storm-presidency-possible-constitutional-crises/1210194002/>]

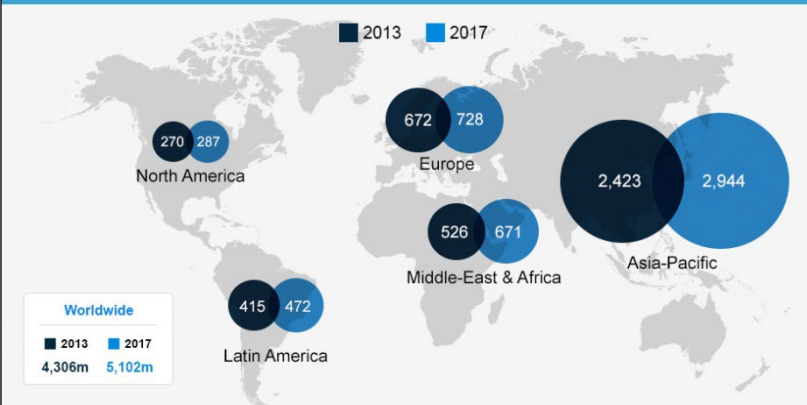
# Information

- Information is ubiquitous
  - a valuable organisational asset
  - need access to information to do our jobs
  - many forms: in conversation, on paper, online
- Increasing amounts of online information
  - interaction with companies and public services
  - freely offering personal information, especially younger generation

**"Information is the oxygen of the modern age." (Ronald Reagan, 1989)**

## **5 Billion People to Use Mobile Phones by 2017**

Estimated number of mobile phone users worldwide (in millions)



statista  
The Statistics Portal

Mashable

Source: eMarketer

[<https://www.statista.com/chart/1517/worldwide-mobile-phone-users/>]



# Online Benefits

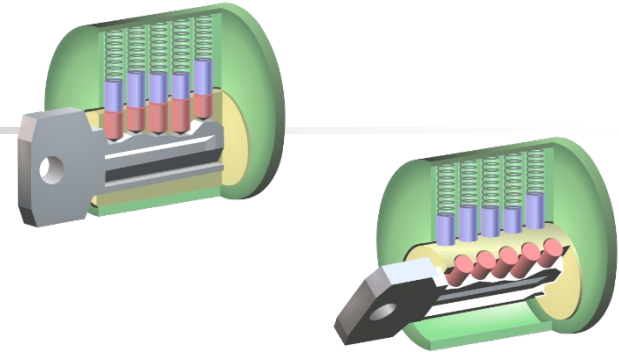
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- E-commerce leads to more efficient and more convenient ways of doing business
- Smart cities/smart grids leads to enhanced energy efficiency
- Connected healthcare enhances patient experience and outcomes by faster access to relevant medical data
- Online banking and shopping frees up time for other priorities
- Online learning makes education more accessible to many
- Social networking enables more people to be connected to friends, family, job opportunities and more

[[https://cphcuk.files.wordpress.com/2014/11/perspectives\\_integrating-cybersecurity-into-computer-science-curricula-final31102014.pdf](https://cphcuk.files.wordpress.com/2014/11/perspectives_integrating-cybersecurity-into-computer-science-curricula-final31102014.pdf)]

# How Safe?

- Physical security
  - Building, office, cabinet
  - Locks, cards and magnetic strips, passcodes, ...
- Information security
  - Protection of assets
  - Policies, encryption, access control
- Network and communication security
  - Authentication, protocols, encryption
  - Firewalls, anti-virus software, VPN, https...

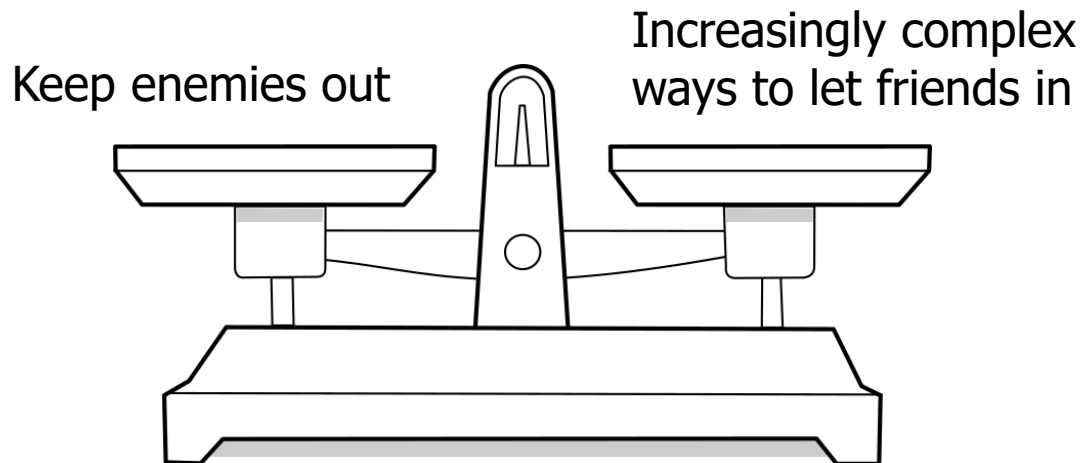


[<http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/cics/ucards>]

["Pin tumbler with key" by Derivative work: Pbroks13; Original: Wapcaplet - File:Pin tumbler with key.png. Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Commons - [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pin\\_tumbler\\_with\\_key.svg#/media/File:Pin\\_tumbler\\_with\\_key.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pin_tumbler_with_key.svg#/media/File:Pin_tumbler_with_key.svg); and File:Pin\_tumbler\_unlocked.svg]

# Balance of Protection

- Want to protect against malicious attacks
  - whether from outsiders or insiders
- Want to keep open for fair and proper use
  - maximum security, minimum impact on productivity





# Lab 1: Quick Login

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- Imagine you are building...
  - a software system for a student project
  - it has password-protected access for users
  - as the developer, you want to test new features regularly
  - you want to get in and out of the system quickly
- What login ID and password?
  - write down a typical username and password you would use for this, as your admin login
  - write down another username and password, if you have more than one typical admin login
  - be honest about what you would choose, given that the system is a fairly low-risk one



Run a Poll



# Security Terminology

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- Assets
  - what you wish to protect
  - how valuable they are
- Vulnerabilities
  - weaknesses that make attack possible
  - could be technical, or social/behavioural
- Threats
  - potential dangers to your assets, estimated loss
  - threats take advantage of vulnerabilities
- Attacks
  - actions leading to violation of security
- Countermeasures
  - what you can do to prevent/minimise attacks



# Assets

£450K - £5M

£17K - £44K

- What do you want to protect?
  - how much effort to protect each of these ?



["Aston.db5.coupe.300pix". Licensed under Public Domain via Commons - <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Aston.db5.coupe.300pix.jpg#/media/File:Aston.db5.coupe.300pix.jpg>]



["Trotters" The original uploader was Goldfinger at Serbian Wikipedia - Transferred from sr.wikipedia to Commons by BokicaK using CommonsHelper.. Licensed under CC BY 3.0 rs via Commons - <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Trotters.jpg#/media/File:Trotters.jpg>]

- Quantify the risk to each asset
  - likelihood of being targeted by attack
  - probability of attack being successful
  - estimated impact of successful attack



# Vulnerabilities - I

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- Backdoors
  - secret routes into software left by developers
  - later exploited by hackers, or developers!
- Direct access
  - left or lost disks, flash drives
  - unsecured networks, laptops
- Eavesdropping
  - sniffing traffic going through routers
  - inferring data from EM waves, energy usage
- Spoofing
  - keyloggers used to detect password entry
  - steal and use another person's identity

# Open Door?

I changed my password to "incorrect". So, whenever I forget what it is, the computer will say "Your password is incorrect".

Rank	2020	2021	Chart
1	123456	123456	no change
2	123456789	123456789	no change
3	picture1	12345	up 5
4	password	qwerty	new entry
5	12345678	password	down 1
6	111111	12345678	down 1
7	123123	111111	down 1
8	12345	123123	down 1
9	1234567890	1234567890	no change
10	senha	1234567	new entry



Survey of the most common passwords (as revealed in data breaches)

[<http://nordpass.com>]

[[http://logos.wikia.com/wiki/Top\\_of\\_the\\_Pops](http://logos.wikia.com/wiki/Top_of_the_Pops)]



# Data Breaches



- Jan 2009: health worker lost memory stick with medical records of 6000 prisoners; encrypted, but with password on a sticky-note
- Oct 2008: hard-drive lost with MOD data on 100,000 armed forces personnel, inc. bank details, passport, DoB, driving license, telephone numbers
- Jun 2008: Cabinet Office intelligence officer left file marked "UK Top Secret" on train with Al-Qaeda and Iraq vulnerability details
- Nov 2007: HMRC lost two disks with 25m child benefit records in the internal post, with name, address bank details, NI numbers of 2.75m families



[<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7449927.stm>]

[<http://www.cambridgeed.com/PLAN-Test/Assessments-and-Data/pl04-1-1568/>  
<https://www.amazon.ca/White-Train-Model-Flash-Memory/dp/B079DJKXH4>]

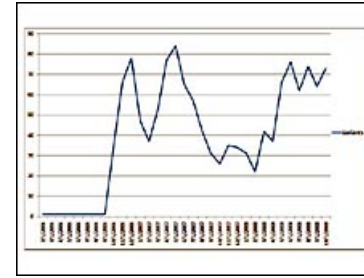


# Vulnerabilities - II

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- Trojans, viruses, worms
  - malware hiding inside regular software
  - worm viruses attached to end of data blocks
  - used for data tampering, keylogging
- Privilege escalation
  - enter system using end-user privileges
  - get higher authorisation, up to root access
- Denial-of-service
  - overload machine, bandwidth, trigger a lockout
  - DDOS (distributed denial of service) using a botnet
- Clickjacking
  - redirect web access, fake login pages, password sniffing

# Trojan



- Feb 2006: security firm RSA found that 270K online bank accounts and 240K credit, debit card details stolen by Windows **Sinowal** trojan
- RSA found Sinowal works as a **drive-by download**: just visiting an infected website can load it
- **Sinowal** also known as **Torpig** or **Mebroot**, operated secretly for 2 years before detection
- Apr 2007: Google found 1 in 10 of 4.5m surveyed web pages to be infected
- May 2008: Sophos found rate of infection was 6K pages per day
- Sept 2008: Fortinet reported attacks rising from 10m to 30m. Source appears to be Russia, or E. Europe



[<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/7701227.stm>]



# Top 8 Viruses

All-time most destructive,  
collated by Norton in 2016

- **CryptoLocker**: 2013 ransomware spread by email attachment; encrypted all your files; pay to decrypt. Cost \$30m in 100 days
- **ILOVEYOU**: 2000 worm that overwrote files. Cost \$15bn
- **MyDoom**: 2004 hit Google, SCO, Microsoft with DDOS; also sent spam email. Cost \$38bn
- **StormWorm**: 2006 fake news link installed a botnet that spread spam. Cost unknown
- **Sasser/Netsky**: 2004 created by German teen to outdo MyDoom. Shut down transatlantic flights. Cost \$31bn
- **Anna Kournikova**: 2001 click-bait worm that copied itself to address books. Harmless, but cost \$166K to fix
- **Slammer**: 2003 fast-spreading UDP worm that crashed half the Internet. Cost \$1bn.
- **Stuxnet**: 2010 first ever digital weapon deployed by US against Iran nuclear facilities. Caused centrifuges to self-destruct

[[https://uk.norton.com/norton-blog/2016/02/the\\_8\\_most\\_famousco.html](https://uk.norton.com/norton-blog/2016/02/the_8_most_famousco.html)]





# Social Engineering

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- Phishing
  - attacker impersonates a trustworthy source
  - tries to get you to divulge personal info
  - often uses URL link-shorteners to conceal redirection
  - often uses phone/email password scams
- Pretexting
  - plausible fabricated role-play scenario to elicit information
  - phone call offering to help fix a (non-existent?) problem
  - attacker asks victim to confirm identity
- Baiting
  - infected disks, web pages with attractive content (click-bait)
  - promise of free stuff if you give your credentials (quid pro quo)
  - leave infected flash drives around to see if you plug one in



# Media Manipulation

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- Sockpuppets
  - robot accounts created on Twitter or Facebook
  - adjust balance of opinions, act as voice-multiplier
- Troll armies
  - organised teams of Twitter, Facebook posters
  - used to promote one side in a campaign, election or referendum
  - form of state attack used by Russia, USA
- Astroturfing
  - above tricks used to create fake groundswell of popular opinion (fake "grass-roots")
  - sometimes start by deliberately posting contrary arguments, to trigger a bigger desired counter-response

# Prediction come True!



Howard Gordon and Alex Gansa.  
© Showtime, Fox 21 Television

Clip from *Homeland*, Season 6, 2016.

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EufH0T196bY>]

# Cambridge Analytica, 2018



- CA boss Alexander Nix, Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg testify to DCMS Committee
- Facebook forced to reveal "dark adverts" targeted at vulnerable users
- Users were harvested by CA from insecure research app
- Fake ads commissioned by Vote Leave campaign from Canadian agency AggregateIQ

Lie: Turkey is not about to join EU

[<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2022/jul/28/dcms-committee-report-finds-truth-fake-news-facebook-brexit>]



# Countermeasures -I

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- Authentication and authorisation
  - secure user accounts with password protection
  - access-controls, privileged users may access specific data
- Multi-factor authentication
  - requires 3+ items: user ID, password, memorable info
  - sometimes requires physical key, a "dongle"
- Firewalls
  - shield internal network services from attacks
  - perform packet-filtering on external traffic
- Secure networking
  - HTTPS: client/server authentication using private/public key
  - encrypted data transfer, e.g. for login portals
  - Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) tunnelling through



# Countermeasures -II

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- Physical separation
  - physically separate networks, computers (no Internet)
  - secure room inside a Faraday cage (blocks EM)
- Cryptography
  - message digests (proof of no tampering in transit)
  - digital certificates (proof of origin of software, message)
  - non-repudiation (proof of bilateral transaction)
  - confidentiality (encryption provides secrecy)
- Intrusion detection
  - packet-logging systems for forensics
- Formal verification
  - secure O/S or hypervisor (secure installer, service layer)
  - blocks malware, installs only trusted modules



# Cyber Security Training

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- Social countermeasures
  - training in correct use of machines, networks, passwords
  - training in anti-phishing, pretexting, baiting scams
  - avoid tailgating into secure areas, impersonation
- Subversion countermeasures
  - education about Facebook, Twitter post-truth "reality"
  - use fact-check sites: e.g. [Channel 4 News](#)
  - legislation against disinformation - Germany, 2017 new bill fines providers €50m for breaking rules
  - Facebook suspended 30K fake news sites in France
  - Twitter regularly shuts down abusive bots
  - problems balancing this with freedom of speech - UK typically vague about what it will do





# Threats to UK

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- CPNI: Centre for Protection of National Infrastructure
  - responsible for protecting UK national infrastructure
  - responsible directly to MI5
  - see: <https://www.cpni.gov.uk/>
- Ranked top threats in 2022
  - **terrorism**: targeting UK businesses, economy, transport infrastructure
  - **espionage**: covertly obtaining military, industrial, political secrets, compromise security
  - **cybercrime**: by foreign states, criminals, terrorists and hacktivists, espionage and network attack
  - **proliferation**: of nuclear, biological, chemical weapons of mass destruction, sourced from weak states



# 10 Steps To Cyber Security

Defining and communicating your Board's Information Risk Management Regime is central to your organisation's overall cyber security strategy. CESG recommend you review this regime - together with the nine associated security areas described below - in order to protect your business against the majority of cyber threats.





# Multi-layered Policies

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- Physical Security
  - physical barriers, locked resources, access control
  - monitoring, intruder/threat detection
  - command & control, defence in depth
- Personnel & People Security
  - policies that mitigate against insider attacks
  - vetting personnel, promoting security culture
  - disrupting hostile reconnaissance
- Cyber Security
  - network and information systems hardening
  - e.g. Protective DNS for public sector - extra firewalling
  - National Cyber Security Centre, launched 2017



# Lab 2: Security Policy

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- What is your security policy?
  - make a list of your assets
  - identify vulnerabilities
  - identify threats, attacks
  - identify countermeasures
- How would you deal with:
  - a fire in your residence
  - the theft of your laptop
  - hard-disk crash on your laptop
  - a virus transmitted by email
  - a vulnerability found in your O/S
  - sharing a friend's memory stick
  - tailgating you through the Diamond/Info. Commons



Run a Poll



# Legal Obligations



- Computer Misuse Act, 1990
  - prohibits hacking for malicious purposes
- Human Rights Act, 1998
  - enshrines freedoms, especially to privacy
- Data Protection Act, 1998
  - sets limits on the holding of personal data
- Investigatory Powers Act, 2016
  - allows traffic monitoring for security reasons
- General Data Protection Regulation, 2018
  - strengthens all the above across the EU



# Computer Misuse Act, 1990

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- Computer misuse offences
  - 1) Unauthorised access to computer material
  - 2) Unauthorised access with intent to commit or facilitate commission of further offences
  - 3) Unauthorised acts with intent to impair, or with such recklessness as to impair, operation of computer, etc.
  - 4) Unauthorised acts causing, or creating risk of, serious damage
  - 5) Making, supplying or obtaining articles for use in offence under 1, 3 or 4

[<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/18/contents>]



# Data Protection Act, 1998

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- Controls how your **personal** information is used by organisations, businesses or the government
- Must make sure the information is:
  - used fairly and lawfully
  - used for limited, specifically stated purposes
  - used in a way that is adequate, relevant and not excessive
  - accurate
  - kept for no longer than is absolutely necessary
  - handled according to people's data protection rights
  - kept safe and secure
  - not transferred outside the European Economic Area without adequate protection
- Information Commissioner's Office
  - <https://ico.org.uk/> - authority promoting public openness and data privacy for individuals, with controlled information access rights





# Investigatory Powers Act, 2016

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- So-called **snooper's charter**, allowing UK intelligence and police agencies to carry out
  - targeted interceptions of communications
  - bulk collection of communications data
  - bulk interception of communications
  - targeted hacking of devices for national security reasons
- Requires Communication Service Providers to
  - record all websites visited for 1 year (but not the individual pages)
  - allow police access to such records without warrant
- Investigatory Powers Commission
  - panel of judges, who regulate application of law
  - intended as a check and balance



# EU General Data Protection Regulation, 2018

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- Individual rights
  - data protection **by design and by default**
  - privacy for all personal data, records, images
  - right to give, withdraw consent for data use
  - right of access to data, how long it is kept for use
- Corporate responsibilities
  - anonymisation/pseudonymisation of personal data
  - data held securely, encrypted, privacy protected
  - data held only for legitimate contractual purposes
  - data retained only as long as needed (no sharing)
- Regulatory framework
  - Data Controller appointed in each business
  - Data Protection Authority set up in EU member states

# Identity Theft



Clip from CIFAS - UK Fraud Prevention Service  
[<https://www.cifas.org.uk/services/identity-protection>]



# Security and You

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- Do you [vulnerability] [threat] [risk]
  - regularly update your anti-virus software?
    - [no update] [virus attack] [destruction of ...]
  - make back-ups of your files?
    - [no backup] [theft/disk-crash] [loss of project ...]
  - forward warning emails to your friends?
    - [no action] [not forewarned] [spread of virus]
  - use a secure password with 8+ chars, symbols and digits?
    - [short password] [easy to crack] [impersonation, data loss]
  - regularly apply security patches to your laptop?
    - [disregard patches] [open to attack] [computer crash/corruption]



# Summary

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- Cyber security is a hot topic, now judged to be the no. 3 threat to the UK
- Historic cyber attacks were benign intrusions by hackers, malicious viruses exploiting O/S weaknesses
- Organised cyber attacks by criminals, nation states are a larger economic threat: fraud, espionage, terrorism
- Recent cyber attacks harvesting social media to target individuals have manipulated elections, referenda
- Defence in depth only comes through a layered security policy: physical, personal, technical; and education
- Personal cyber security means that you need to be aware of threats, take defensive measures while a student