

# DETECTION OF PHISHING WEBSITES USING GENERATIVE ADVERSARIAL NETWORK

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# Plan



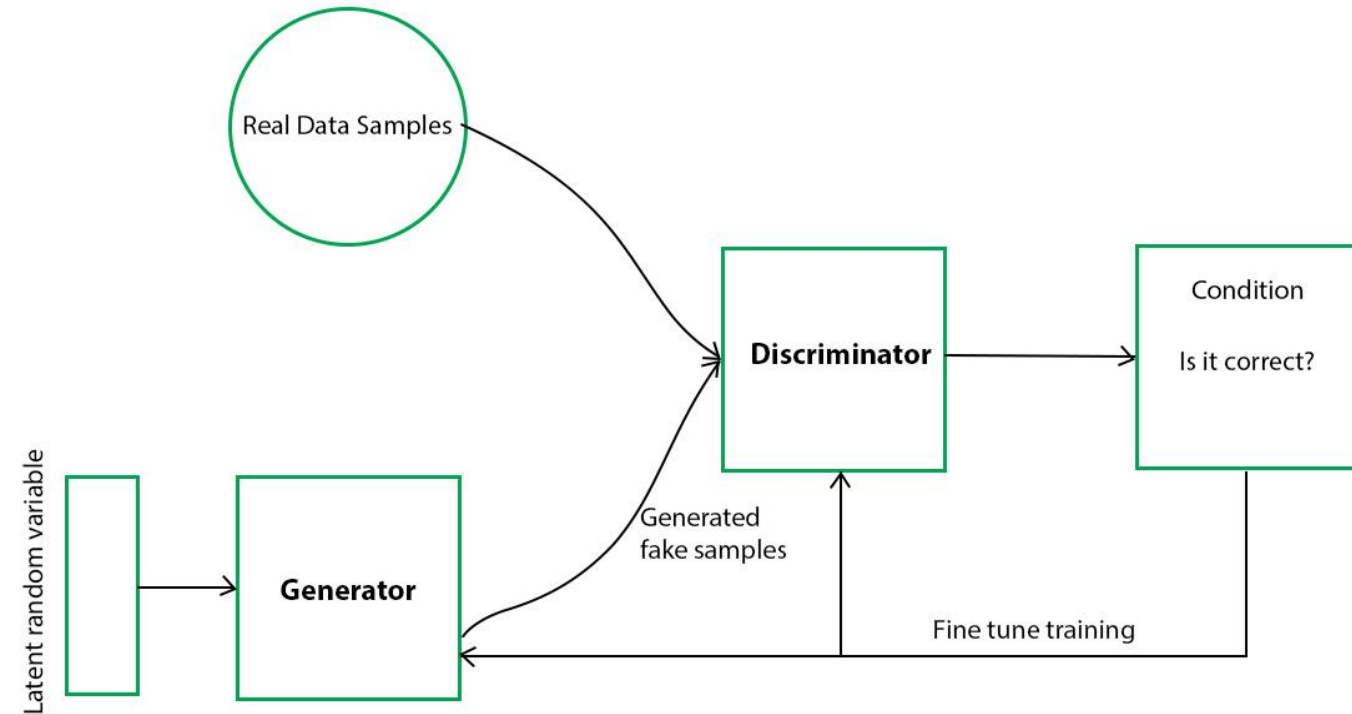
# PROJECT CONTEXT

# Phishing

- *“Phishing is the fraudulent attempt to obtain sensitive information by disguising oneself as a trustworthy entity in an electronic communication”*
- One of the most popular type of attack
  - *Easy*
  - *Not expensive*
- In 2018: ~800,000 unique phishing websites were detected

# Generative Adversarial Network (GAN)

- Machine learning system invented by Ian Goodfellow et al in 2014
- Two neural networks contest each other in a game



# Generative Adversarial Network (GAN)

- Often used in image processing
  - *Detection of aggressive Prostate Cancer* by Simon Kohl et al. in 2017
  - *Text to Photo-realistic Image Synthesis* by Han Zhang et al. in 2016
- But not often for cybersecurity

# INITIAL OBJECTIVES

# Initial objectives

## Classic method

- Create a database of phishing websites
- Compare to this database to check if a website is phishing or not
- Based on report by users

## Detection with GAN

- Train a GAN to detect phishing websites
- Real time method
- Can detect a newly created phishing website



# REALISATION

# Features extraction

- Based on the work of R. M. Mohammad *et al.* and S. Schüppen *et al.*
- 46 features are extracted for each website
  - 3 categories: structural, based on source code, from third party sources
  - 2 types of value possible: discrete or continuous

# Structural features

These features are extracted from the URL of the website

| Feature                                  | Description  |
|--|--|
| IP address                               | Ip address in the hostname                                     |
| Hostname length                          | Length of the hostname   |
| Use a shortening service                 | Shortening service used  |
| @ symbol                                 | @ symbol in the URL  |
| Double slash                             | '//' in the URL  |
| Dash symbol                              | Number of dash in the URL                                      |
| Subdomains count                         | Number of subdomains   |
| Http token                               | Is 'http' in the URL except at the begining                    |
| Mean subdomains length                   | Average of the length of subdomains                            |
| www token                                | 'www' at the beginning of the URL                              |
| Valid TLD                                | The URL have a valid TLD*                                      |
| Single character subdomain               | A subdomain is composed by only one character?                 |
| Exclusive Prefix Repetition              | The URL is composed by a repetition of a characters sequence?  |
| TLD as subdomain                         | Is there a subdomain that is a valid TLD?                      |
| Ratio of exclusive digit subdomains      | Ratio of subdomains composed only by digit                     |
| Ratio of exclusive hexadecimal subdomain | Ratio of subdomains composed only by hexadecimal               |
| Ratio of underscore                      | Ratio of underscore in the hostname                            |
| Hostname contains digit                  | Does the hostname contain digit?                               |
| Vowel ratio                              | Ratio of vowel in the hostname                                 |
| Digit ratio                              | Ratio of digit in the hostname                                 |
| Alphabet cardinality                     | Number of alpha-characters in the hostname                     |
| Ratio of repeated characters             | Ratio of the characters that are repeated in the hostname      |
| Ratio of consecutive consonant           | Ratio of consonant that precedes or succeeds another consonant |
| Ratio of consecutive digit               | Ratio of digit that precedes or succeeds another digit         |

# Features based on source code

These features are extracted from the HTML source code of the website

| Feature                      | Description  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Favicon link                 | Favicon is a local link                            |
| Ports opened                 | Are there ports in abnormal state *                |
| Links of resources requested | Ratio of image/sound/video links that are external |
| Anchor links                 | Ration of anchor links that are external           |
| Tag links                    | Ratio of tag links that are external               |
| Server Form Handler          | Is there form that point nowhere?                  |
| Email submitting             | Is there any information submitted by email        |
| Redirect                     | Number of redirections                             |
| Custom toolbar               | Is the browser toolbar abnormally modified?        |
| Disable right-click          | Is the right-click disabled?                       |
| Popup Count                  | Number of popup                                    |
| iFrame links                 | Is there iFrame external link?                     |
| iFrame links                 | Is there iFrame external link?                     |
| Popup Count                  | Number of popup                                    |
| Disable right-click          | Is the right-click disabled?                       |

# Features from third party sources

These features are extracted from information given by third party

| Feature                       | Description   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Age of TLS/SSL certificate    | Validity duration of the TLS/SSL certificate          |
| Time until the domain expires | Time until the end of the domain registration ‡       |
| Abnormal URL                  | Does the domain registrant contain the hostname?      |
| Age of domain                 | Time since the first registration of the domain ‡     |
| DNS record                    | Website known by a DNS                                |
| Amazon traffic rank           | Rank of the domain given by Amazon AWIS *             |
| PageRank                      | PageRank of the domain †                              |
| Google indexation             | Domain indexed by Google                              |
| Links pointing to the page    | How many links are pointing to the domain? *          |
| Know as phishing              | Is the website already known as a phishing website? § |

Know as phishing  
the page  
links pointing to  
known as a phishing website §  
Is the website already  
pointing to the domain? \*  
How many links are

# Datasets creation

- 2 datasets were created:
  - Phishing dataset containing 11250 phishing websites with their features
    - Extracted from *phishtank.com*
  - Clean dataset containing 24000 non-phishing websites with their features
    - Extracted from web browser history of a classic workstation and top 25000 of most visited websites in the US

# GAN training

- Find the best type of value for each feature
  - *24 features can be extracted as discrete or continuous value*
  - *Each of them was tested and the most efficient type was kept*
- 2 GANs were trained
  - *With clean data as input*
  - *With phishing data as input*

# RESULTS



# With Clean data

- Good accuracy
- Low false positive rate

|          | Phishing | Clean |
|----------|----------|-------|
| Phishing | 1106     | 107   |
| Clean    | 110      | 2297  |

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Accuracy            | 94,00% |
| Precision           | 90,95% |
| Recall              | 91,17% |
| F1-Score            | 91,06% |
| False positive rate | 4,57%  |
| False negative rate | 8,82%  |

# With Phishing data

- Good recall
- High false positive rate
- Low false negative rate

|          | Phishing | Clean |
|----------|----------|-------|
| Phishing | 1150     | 63    |
| Clean    | 228      | 2179  |

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Accuracy            | 91,96% |
| Precision           | 83,45% |
| Recall              | 94,80% |
| F1-Score            | 88,76% |
| False positive rate | 9,47%  |
| False negative rate | 5,19%  |

# FUTURE WORK & CONCLUSION

# How to improve it?

- Results are quite good
- Combine it to some other detection system
- Add a third class « suspicious »

# Thank you!

Some questions?



Repo: [github.com/khuzd/phishgan](https://github.com/khuzd/phishgan)