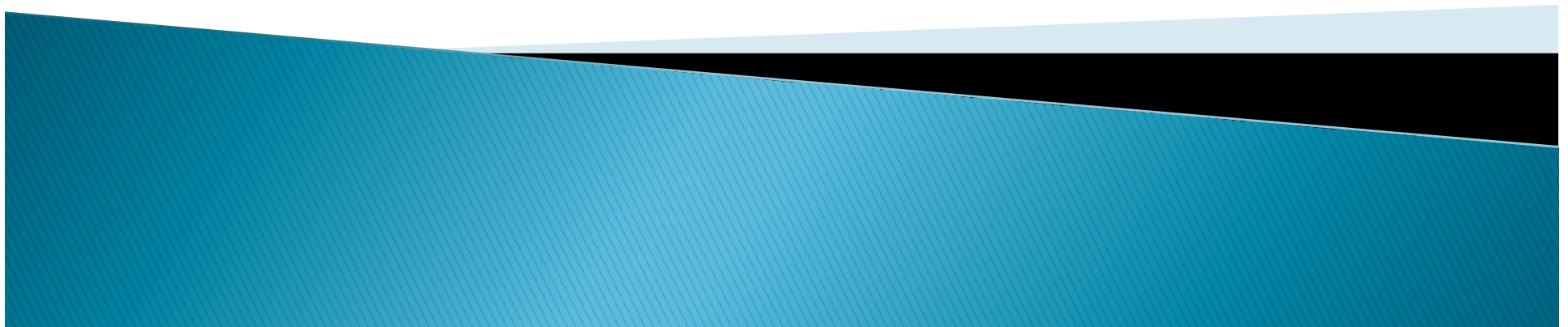


Seminar 5 preparation: Cybercrime and Criminological Theories

Michael Geiger



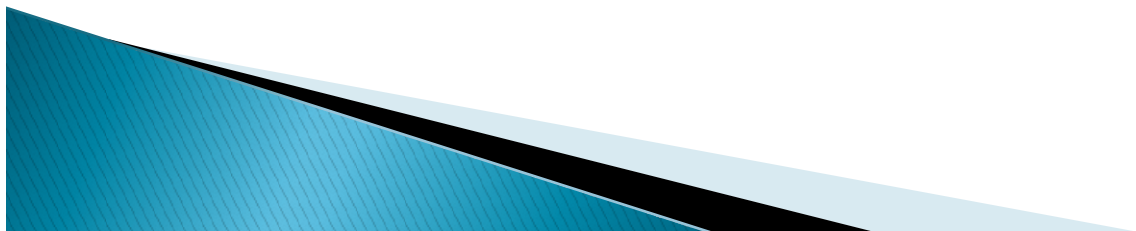
General Theory of Crime

- Question: “What causes people to actually conform to the rules?” (Holt et al., 2022)
- Crime is a function of our basic human nature
- (Self) control factors separates criminals from noncriminals:
 - Internal factors: states, traits, knowledge
 - External factors: law, society, school, institutions and groups
- Behavioural characteristics lead to criminal action:
 - Impulsive
 - Insensitive
 - Little consideration to the future
- Lack of forethought and behavioural characteristic lead to failure to achieve life goals (education, relationships, professional success)
- Criticism:
 - Cybercrime need knowledge and skills → difficult to obtain
 - Hacker have higher level of self-control and strong commitment to mastery of technology



Social Learning Theory

- Criminal behaviour is learned in communication process (Sutherland, 1947)
- Subculture and peer groups
- Learning and adopting:
 - Crime committing techniques
 - Motives
 - Rationalizations
 - Attitudes
- Criticism:
 - Lack of testability
 - Lack of specificity of criminal behaviour learning process



Mirai malware

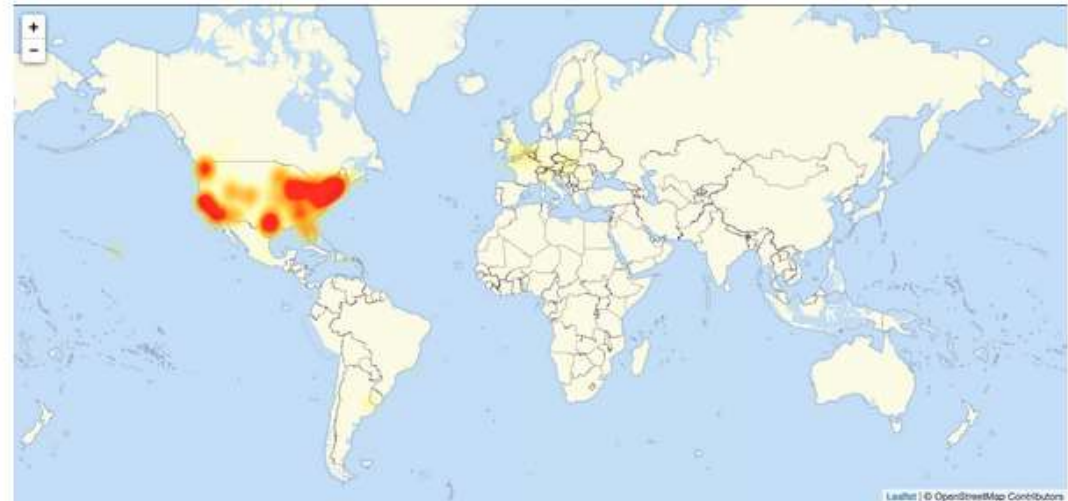
- Malware that turns networked Linux devices into remotely controlled bots
- Used in some of the largest DDoS attacks in 2016 (Kerbs, 2016)
- Affected websites:
 - Twitter
 - Netflix
 - Spotify
 - Airbnb
 - New York Times
- All affected websites used Dyn as server provider

The New York Times

Hackers Used New Weapons to Disrupt Major Websites Across U.S.



Give this article



A map of the areas experiencing problems, as of Friday afternoon, according to downdetector.com.

Mirai malware

- The software was initially used by the creators to DDoS Minecraft servers and companies offering DDoS protection to Minecraft servers (Graff, 2017)
- Creator published the malware code after realization the impact of the committed crime

Social Learning Theory	General Theory of Crime
Subculture	Crime as a function of human nature
Crime committing Techniques	Behavioural characteristics
Motives	Trade-off between cost and benefits
<u>Correlates with first section of the crime</u>	<u>Correlates with second section of the crime</u>

References:

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