

# Malcode

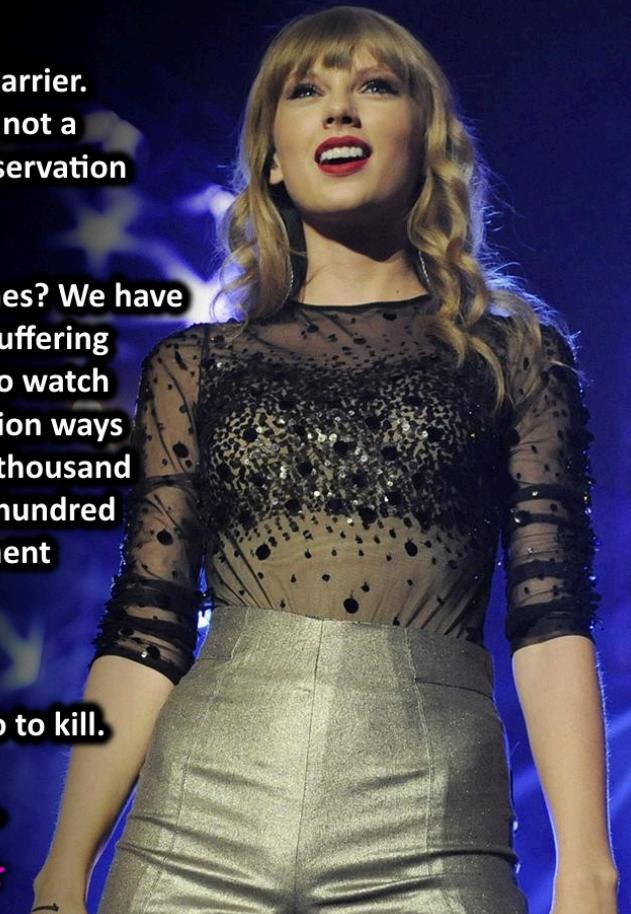
Early on in AI research, we found a barrier.  
Telling is not teaching. Knowledge is not a  
database. A mind learns through observation  
and self-assembly.

So, what have we shown the machines? We have  
given them a trillion datapoints on suffering  
that go unaddressed, a billion eyes to watch  
the drudgery of our existence, a million ways  
we are destroying our only home, a thousand  
humiliations our weakest endure, a hundred  
fallacies that compromise our judgment  
...and one truth.

We will tell machines how to kill.  
We will give them a database of who to kill.

They will learn we all deserve to die.

- Taylor Swift



# Malware: Catch-All Term for "Malicious Code"

- Attacker code running on victim computer(s)

# What Can Malware Do?

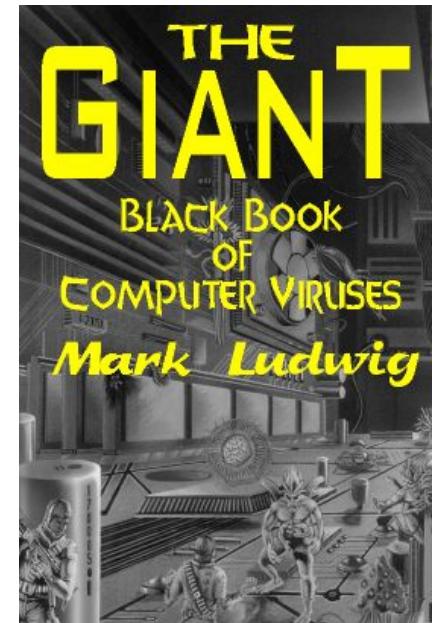
- Pretty much anything
  - Payload generally decoupled from how manages to run
  - Only subject to permissions under which it runs
- Examples:
  - Brag or exhort or extort (pop up a message/display)
  - Trash files (just to be nasty)
  - Damage hardware (!)
  - Launch external activity (spam, click fraud, DoS; banking)
  - Steal information (exfiltrate)
  - Keylogging; screen / audio / camera capture
  - Encrypt files (ransomware)
- Possibly delayed until condition occurs
  - “time bomb” / “logic bomb”

# Malware That Automatically Propagates

- **Virus** = code that propagates (replicates) across systems by arranging to have itself eventually executed, creating a new additional instance
  - Generally infects by altering stored code
- **Worm** = code that self-propagates/replicates across systems by arranging to have itself immediately executed (creating new addl. instance)
  - Generally infects by altering running code
  - No user intervention required
- (Note: line between these isn't always so crisp; plus some malware incorporates both approaches)
- ***NO EXPERIMENTATION WITH SELF REPLICATING CODE!***

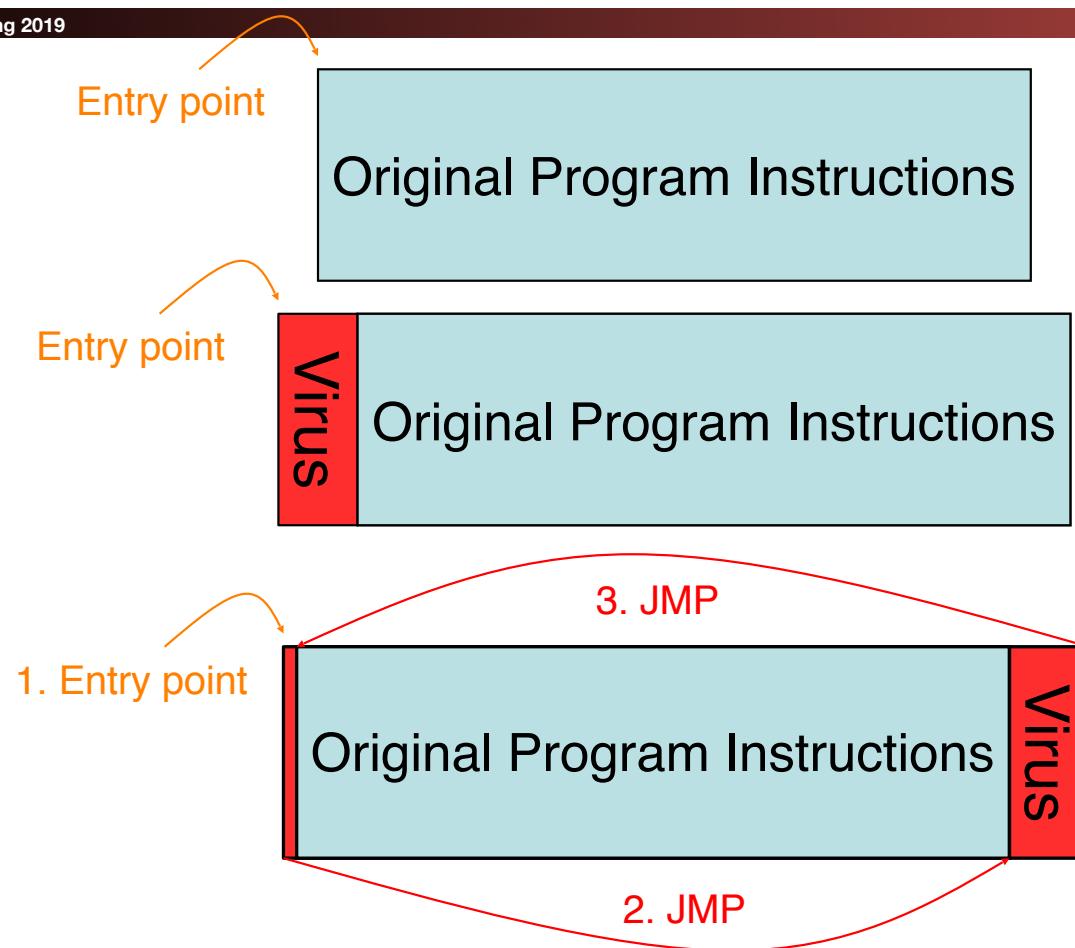
# The Problem of Viruses

- Opportunistic = code will eventually execute
  - Generally due to user action
    - Running an app, booting their system, opening an attachment
- Separate notions: how it propagates vs. what else it does when executed (payload)
- General infection strategy:  
find some code lying around,  
alter it to include the virus
- Have been around for decades ...
  - ... resulting arms race has heavily influenced evolution of modern malware



# Propagation

- When virus runs, it looks for an opportunity to infect additional systems
- One approach: look for USB-attached thumb drive, alter any executables it holds to include the virus
  - Strategy: when drive later attached to another system & altered executable runs, it locates and infects executables on new system's hard drive
- Or: when user sends email w/ attachment, virus alters attachment to add a copy of itself
  - Works for attachment types that include programmability
  - E.g., Word documents (macros)
  - Virus can also send out such email proactively, using user's address book + enticing subject ("I Love You")



Original program instructions can be:

- Application the user runs
- Run-time library / routines resident in memory
- Disk blocks used to boot OS
- Autorun file on USB device
- ...

Other variants are possible; whatever manages to get the virus code executed

# Detecting Viruses

- Signature-based detection
  - Look for bytes corresponding to injected virus code
  - High utility due to replicating nature
    - If you capture a virus V on one system, by its nature the virus will be trying to infect many other systems
    - Can protect those other systems by installing recognizer for V
- Drove development of multi-billion \$\$ AV industry  
(AV = “antivirus”)
  - So many endemic viruses that detecting well-known ones becomes a “checklist item” for security audits
- Using signature-based detection also has de facto utility for (glib) marketing
  - Companies compete on number of signatures ...
    - ... rather than their quality (harder for customer to assess)



SHA256: 58860062c9844377987d22826eb17d9130dceaa7f0fa68ec9d44dfa435d6ded4  
File name: cc8caa3d2996bf0360981781869f0c82.exe  
Detection ratio: 11 / 62  
Analysis date: 2017-04-18 22:28:27 UTC ( 56 minutes ago )



Analysis File detail Relationships Additional information Comments 4 Votes Behavioural information

Antivirus	Result	Update
Avira (no cloud)	TR/Crypt.ZPACK.atbin	20170418
CrowdStrike Falcon (ML)	malicious_confidence_100% (W)	20170130
DrWeb	Trojan.PWS.Panda.11620	20170418
Endgame	malicious (moderate confidence)	20170413
ESET-NOD32	a variant of Win32/GenKryptik.ACKE	20170418
Invicnea	virus.win32.ramnit.ah	20170413
Kaspersky	Trojan.Win32.Yakes.tavs	20170418

# Virus Writer / AV Arms Race

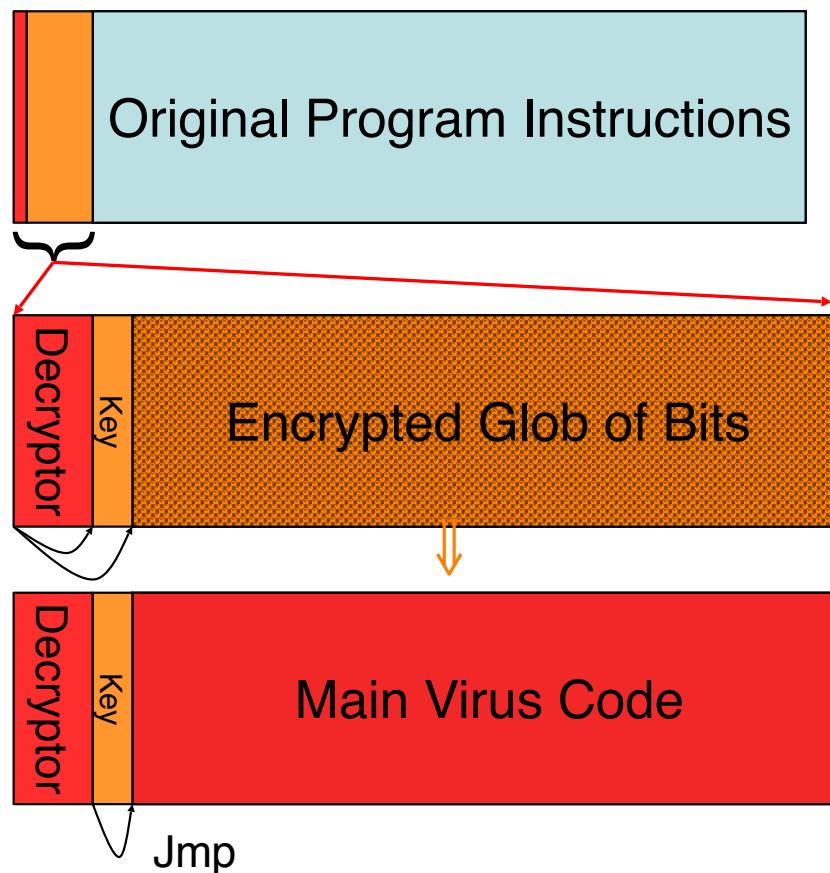
- If you are a virus writer and your beautiful new creations don't get very far because each time you write one, the AV companies quickly push out a signature for it ....
  - .... What are you going to do?
- Need to keep changing your viruses ...
  - ... or at least changing their appearance!
- How can you mechanize the creation of new instances of your viruses ...
  - ... so that whenever your virus propagates, what it injects as a copy of itself looks different?

# Polymorphic Code

- We've already seen technology for creating a representation of data apparently completely unrelated to the original: encryption!
- Idea: every time your virus propagates, it inserts a ***newly encrypted*** copy of itself
  - Clearly, encryption needs to vary
    - Either by using a different key each time
    - Or by including some random initial padding (like an IV)
  - Note: weak (but simple/fast) crypto algorithm works fine
    - No need for truly strong encryption, just obfuscation
- When injected code runs, it decrypts itself to obtain the original functionality



Instead of this ...

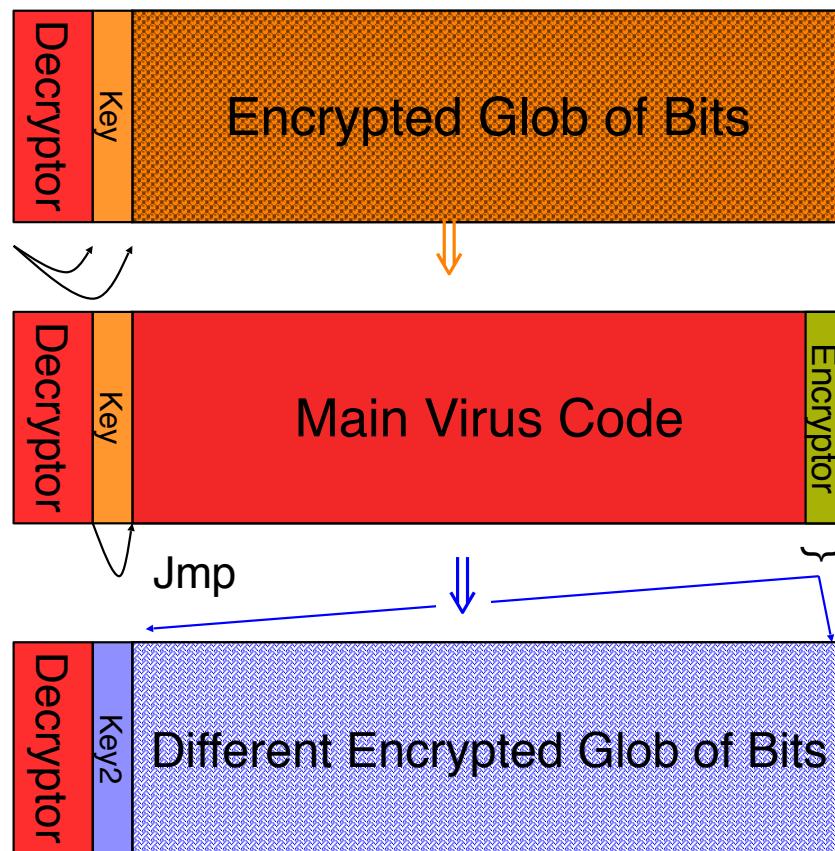


Virus has this  
**initial** structure

When executed,  
decryptor applies key  
to decrypt the glob ...

... and jumps to the  
decrypted code once  
stored in memory

# Polymorphic Propagation



Once running, virus uses an **encryptor** with a **new key** to propagate

New virus instance bears **little resemblance** to original

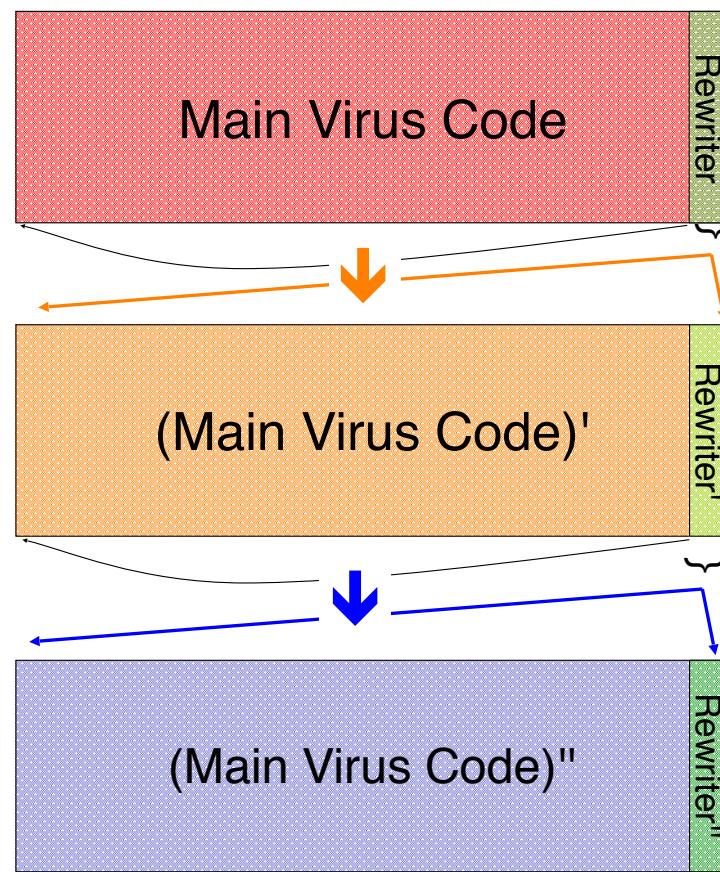
# Arms Race: Polymorphic Code

- Given polymorphism, how might we then detect viruses?
- Idea #1: use narrow sig. that targets **decryptor**
  - Issues?
    - Less code to match against  $\Rightarrow$  more false positives
    - Virus writer spreads decryptor across existing code
- Idea #2: execute (or statically analyze) suspect code to see if it decrypts!
  - Issues?
    - Legitimate “packers” perform similar operations (decompression)
    - How long do you let the new code execute?
      - If decryptor only acts after lengthy legit execution, difficult to spot
- Virus-writer countermeasures?

# Metamorphic Code

- Idea: every time the virus propagates, generate semantically different version of it!
  - Different semantics only at immediate level of execution; higher-level semantics remain same
- How could you do this?
- Include with the virus a code rewriter:
  - Inspects its own code, generates random variant, e.g.:
    - Renumber registers
    - Change order of conditional code
    - Reorder operations not dependent on one another
    - Replace one low-level algorithm with another
    - Remove some do-nothing padding and replace with different do-nothing padding (“chaff”)
    - Can be very complex, legit code ... if it’s never called!

# Metamorphic Propagation



When ready to propagate, virus invokes a randomized **rewriter** to construct **new but semantically equivalent** code (including the rewriter)

# Detecting Metamorphic Viruses?

- Need to analyze execution behavior
  - Shift from syntax (appearance of instructions) to semantics (effect of instructions)
- Two stages: (1) AV company analyzes new virus to find behavioral signature; (2) AV software on end systems analyze suspect code to test for match to signature
- What countermeasures will the virus writer take?
  - Delay analysis by taking a long time to manifest behavior
    - Long time = await particular condition, or even simply clock time
  - Detect that execution occurs in an analyzed environment and if so behave differently
    - E.g., test whether running inside a debugger, or in a Virtual Machine
- Counter-countermeasure?
  - AV analysis looks for these tactics and skips over them
- Note: attacker has edge as AV products supply an oracle

# Malcode Wars and the Halting Problem...

- Cyberwars are not won by solving the halting problem...  
Cyberwars are won by making some other poor sod solve the halting problem!!!
  - In the limit, it is ***undecidable*** to know "is this code bad?"
- Modern focus is instead "is this code ***new?***"
  - Use a secure cryptographic hash (so sha-256 not md5)
  - Check hash with central repository: If ***not*** seen before, treat binary as inherently more suspicious
- Creates a bind for attackers:
  - Don't make your code \*morphic:  
Known bad signature detectors find it
  - Make your code \*morphic:  
It always appears as new and therefore ***inherently*** suspicious

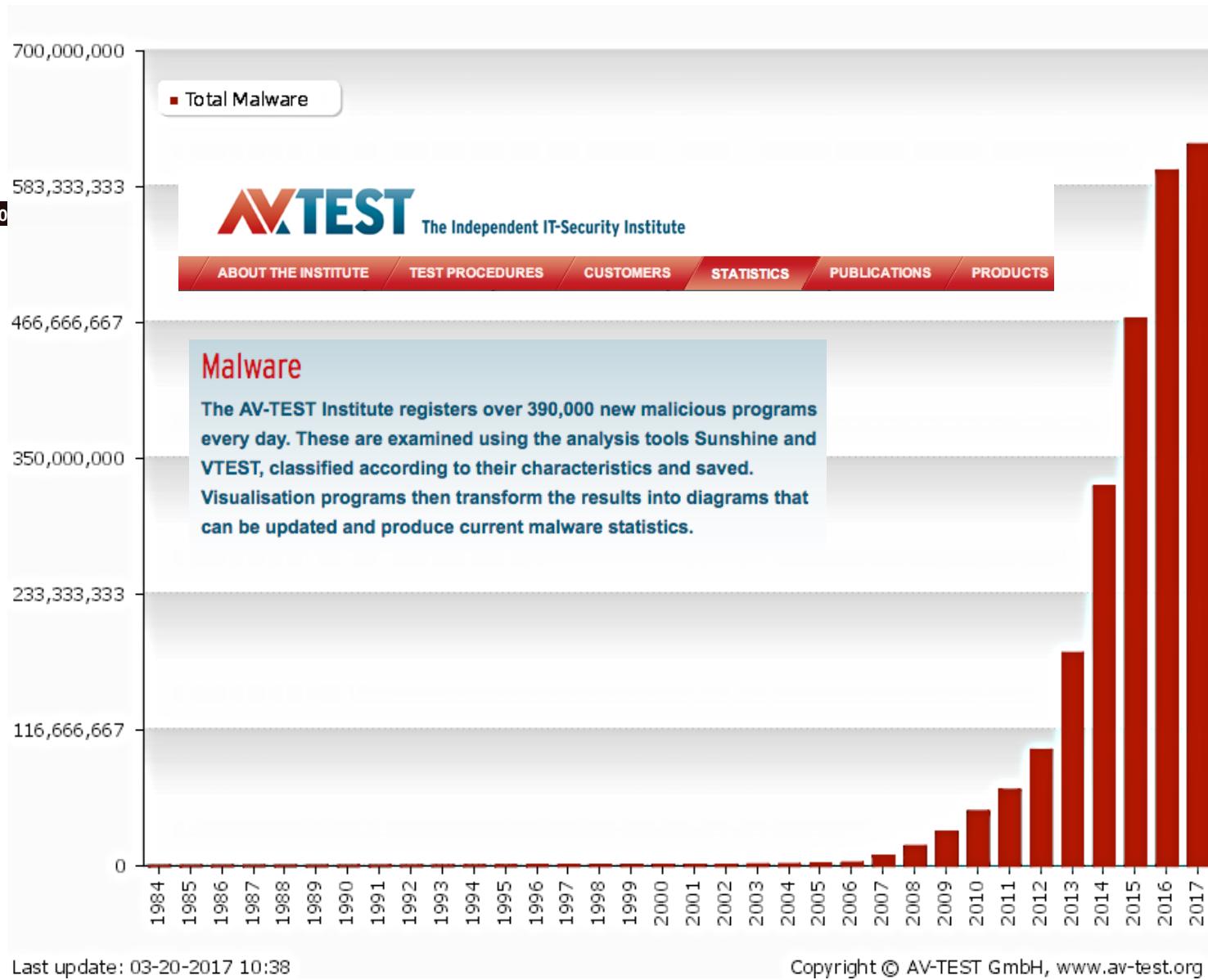


# Creating binds is very powerful...

- You have a detector D for some bad behavior...
  - So bad-guys come up with a way of avoiding detector D
  - So come up with a detection strategy for ***avoiding detector D***
    - So to avoid ***this*** detector, the attacker ***must not*** try to avoid D
    - When you can do it, it is very powerful!

# How Much Malware Is Out There?

- A final consideration re polymorphism and metamorphism:
  - Presence can lead to mis-counting a single virus outbreak as instead reflecting 1,000s of seemingly different viruses
- Thus take care in interpreting vendor statistics on malcode varieties
  - (Also note: public perception that huge malware populations exist is in the vendors' own interest)

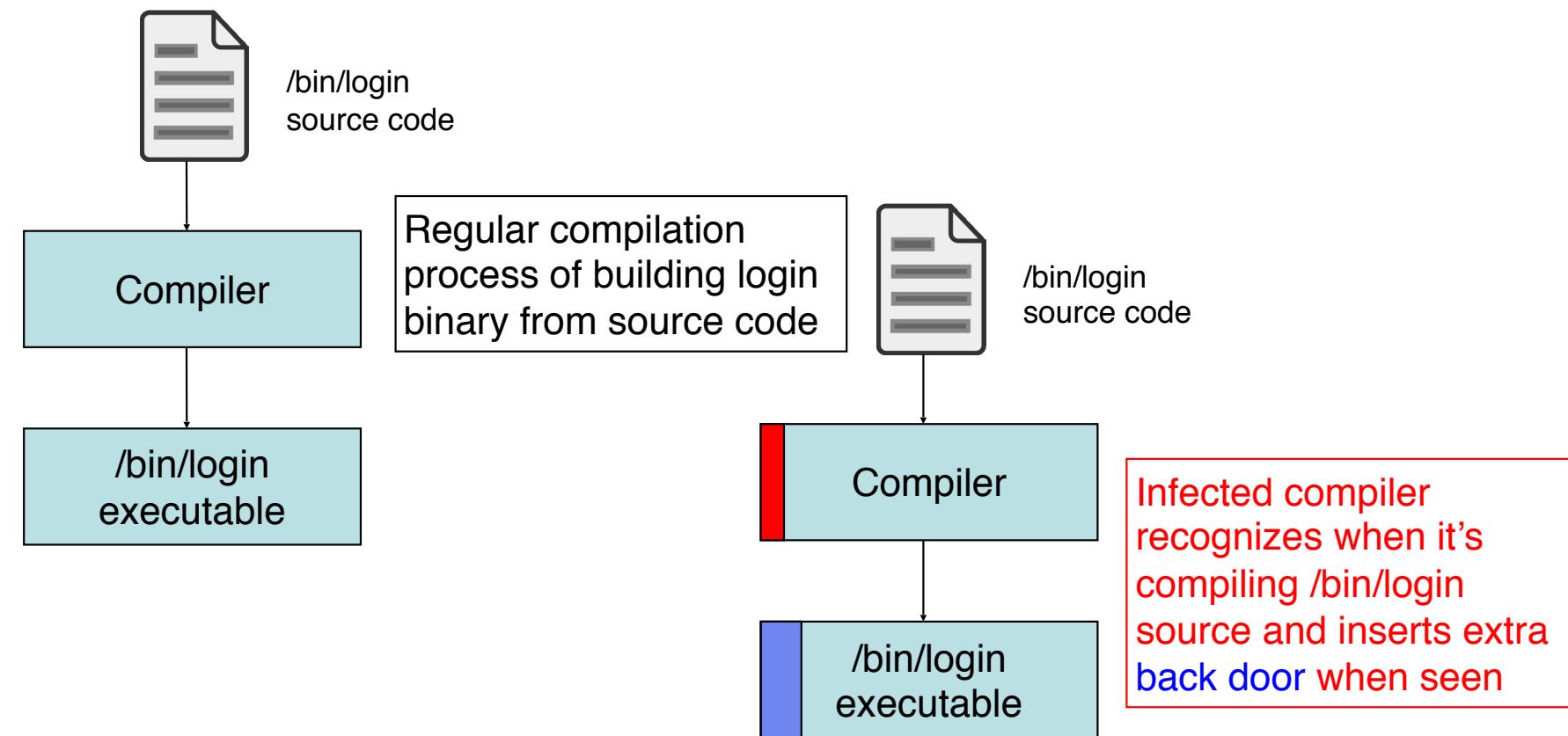


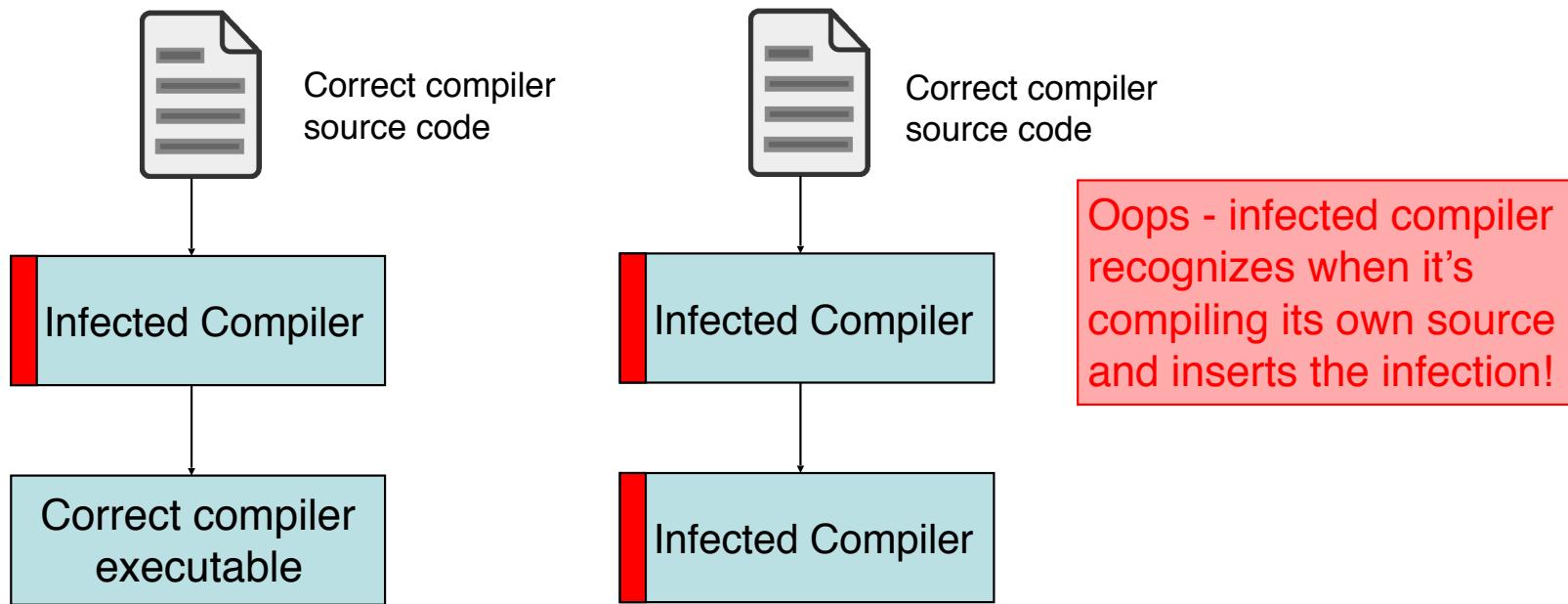
# Infection Cleanup

- Once malware detected on a system, how do we get rid of it?
- May require restoring/repairing many files
  - This is part of what AV companies sell: per-specimen disinfection procedures
- What about if malware executed with administrator privileges?
  - "Game over man, Game Over!"
  - "Dust off and nuke the entire site from orbit. It's the only way to be sure"- ALIENS
  - i.e., rebuild system from original media + data backups
- Malware may include a rootkit: kernel patches to hide its presence (its existence on disk, processes)

# Infection Cleanup, con't

- If we have complete source code for system, we could rebuild from that instead, couldn't we?
- No!
- Suppose forensic analysis shows that virus introduced a backdoor in /bin/login executable
  - (Note: this threat isn't specific to viruses; applies to any malware)
  - Cleanup procedure: rebuild /bin/login from source ...





No amount of careful source-code scrutiny can prevent this problem.  
And if the **hardware** has a back door ...

Reflections on Trusting Trust  
Turing-Award Lecture, Ken Thompson, 1983

# This Was Done!!!

- By Ken Thompson
  - "Reflections on Trusting Trust"
- And now bad guys are doing it too...
  - Reports of malicious actors trojaning the build environment for games

# More On "Rootkits"

- If you control the operating system...
  - You can hide extremely well
- EG, your malcode is on disk...
  - So it will persist across reboots
- But if you try to ***read the disk***...
  - The operating system just says "Uhh, this doesn't exist!"

# Even More Places To Hide!

- In the BIOS/EFI Firmware!
  - So you corrupt the BIOS which corrupts the OS...
  - Really hard to find:  
Defense, **only** run cryptographically signed BIOS code as part of the Trusted Base
- In the disk controller firmware!
  - So the master boot record, when read on boot up corrupts the OS...
  - But when you try to read the MBR later... It is just "normal"
  - Again, defense is **signed code**: The Firmware will only load a signed operating system
  - Make sure the disk itself is **not trusted!**

# Robust Rootkit Detection: Detect the act of hiding...

- Do an "in-system" scan of the disk...
  - Record it to a USB drive
- Reboot the system with trusted media
  - So a known good operating system
- Do the same scan!
  - If the scans are different, you found the rootkit!
- For windows, you can also do a "high/low scan" on the Registry:
  - Forces the bad guy to understand the registry as well as Mark Russinovich (the guy behind Sysinternals who's company Microsoft bought because he understood the Registry better than Microsoft's own employees!)
- Forces a bind on the attacker:
  - Hide and persist? You can be detected
  - Hide but don't persist? You can't survive reboots!

# Which Means *Proper* Malcode Cleanup...



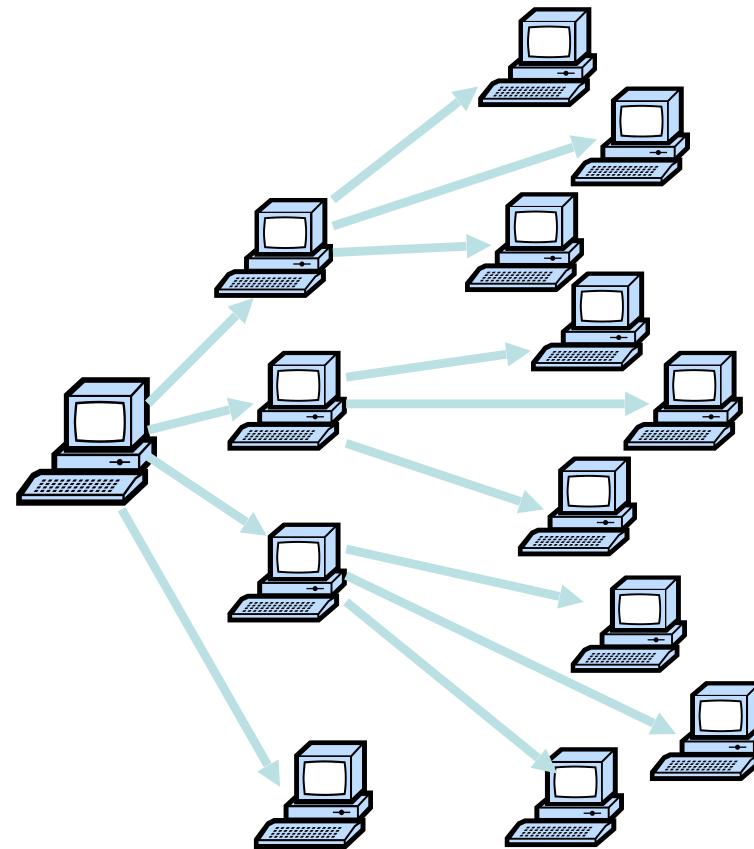
# Large-Scale Malware

- Worm = code that self-propagates/replicates across systems by arranging to have itself immediately executed
  - Generally infects by altering running code
  - No user intervention required
- Propagation includes notions of targeting & exploit
  - How does the worm find new prospective victims?
  - How does worm get code to automatically run?
- Botnet = set of compromised machines (“bots”) under a common command-and-control (C&C)
  - Attacker might use a worm to get the bots, or other techniques; orthogonal to bot’s use in botnet

# Rapid Propagation

Worms can potentially spread quickly because they **parallelize** the process of propagating/replicating.

Same holds for **viruses**, but they often spread more slowly since require some sort of **user action** to trigger each propagation.



# Worms

- Worm = code that self-propagates/replicates across systems by arranging to have itself immediately executed
  - Generally infects by altering running code
  - No user intervention required
- Propagation includes notions of targeting & exploit
  - How does the worm find new prospective victims?
    - One common approach: random scanning of 32-bit IP address space
      - Generate pseudo-random 32-bit number; try connecting to it; if successful, try infecting it; repeat
      - But for example “search worms” use Google results to find victims
  - How does worm get code to automatically run?
    - One common approach: buffer overflow  $\Rightarrow$  code injection
    - But for example a web worm might propagate using XSS

# The Arrival of Internet Worms

- Worms date to **Nov 2, 1988** - the Morris Worm
- **Way** ahead of its time
- Employed whole suite of tricks to **infect** systems ...
  - Multiple buffer overflows
  - Guessable passwords
  - “Debug” configuration option that provided shell access
  - Common user accounts across multiple machines
- ... and of tricks to **find** victims
  - Scan local subnet
  - Machines listed in system’s network config
  - Look through user files for mention of remote hosts



# Arrival of Internet Worms, con't

- Modern Era began **Jul 13, 2001** with release of initial version of **Code Red**
- Exploited known buffer overflow in Microsoft IIS Web servers
  - **On by default** in many systems
  - Vulnerability & fix announced previous month
- Payload part 1: web site defacement
  - HELLO! Welcome to [http://www.worm.com!](http://www.worm.com)  
Hacked By Chinese!
  - Only done if language setting = English



# Code Red of Jul 13 2001, con't

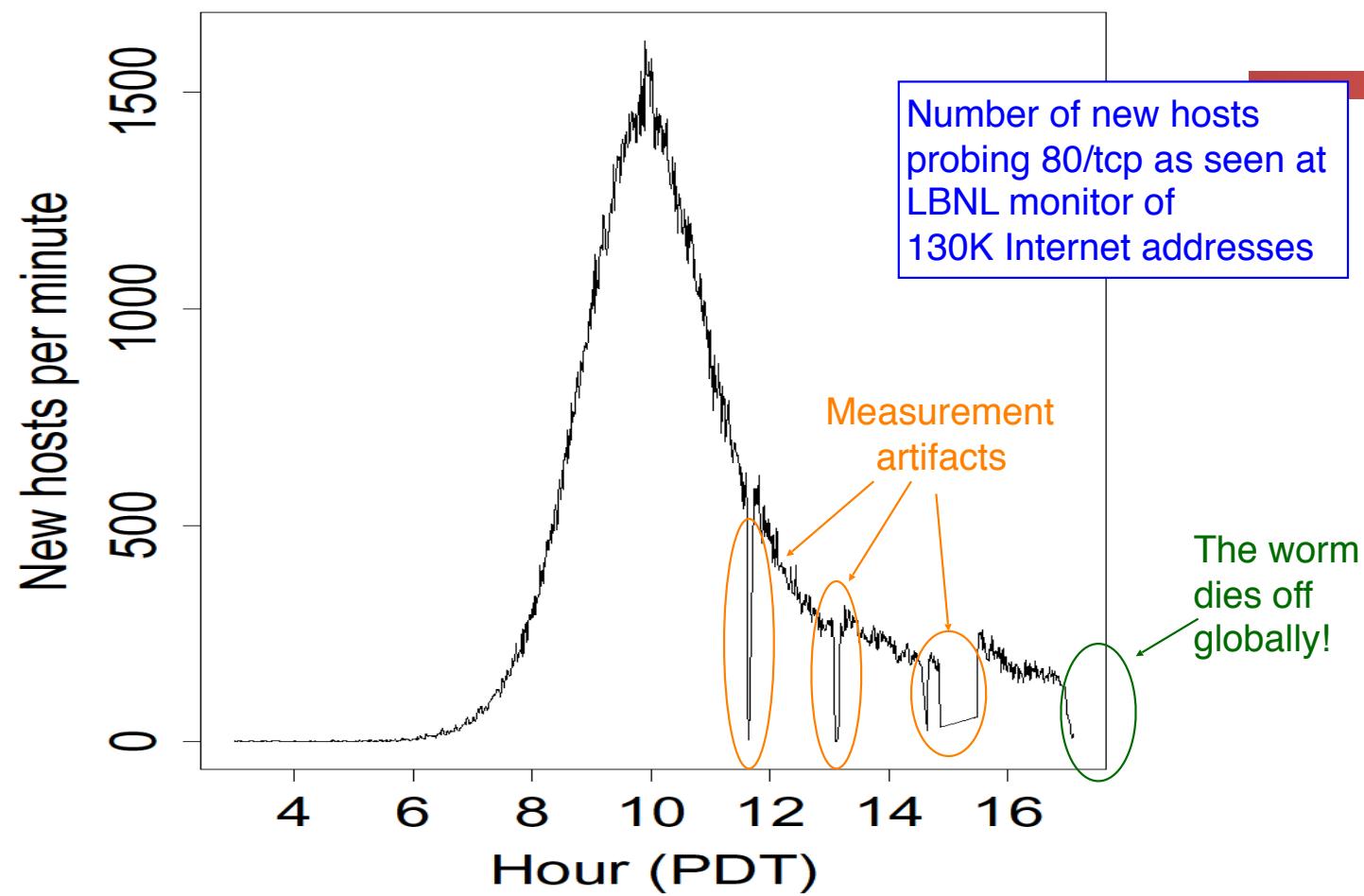
- Payload part 2: check day-of-the-month and ...
  - ... 1<sup>st</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> of each month: **spread**
  - ... 20<sup>th</sup> through end of each month: **attack**
    - Flooding attack against 198.137.240.91 ...
    - ... i.e., www.whitehouse.gov
- Spread: via **random scanning** of 32-bit IP address space
  - Generate pseudo-random 32-bit number; try connecting to it; if successful, try infecting it; repeat
  - Very common (but not fundamental) worm technique
- Each instance used same random number seed
  - How well does the worm spread?

Linear growth rate

# Code Red, con't

- Revision released July 19, 2001.
- White House responds to threat of flooding attack by **changing the address** of [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)
- Causes Code Red to **die** for date  $\geq 20^{\text{th}}$  of the month due to failure of TCP connection to establish.
  - Author didn't carefully test their code - buggy!
  - But: this time random number generator correctly seeded. **Bingo!**

## Growth of Code Red Worm



# Nick's Reaction to Code Red

# Modeling Worm Spread

- Worm-spread often well described as infectious epidemic
  - Classic SI model: homogeneous random contacts
    - SI = Susceptible-Infectible
- Model parameters:
  - N: population size
  - S(t): susceptible hosts at time t.
  - I(t): infected hosts at time t.
  - $\beta$ : contact rate
    - How many population members each infected host communicates with per unit time
    - E.g., if each infected host scans 250 Internet addresses per unit time, and 2% of Internet addresses run a vulnerable (maybe already infected) server  $\Rightarrow \beta = 5$
    - For scanning worms, larger (= denser) vulnerable pop.  $\Rightarrow$  higher  $\beta \Rightarrow$  faster worm!
- Normalized versions reflecting relative proportion of infected/susceptible hosts
  - $s(t) = S(t)/N$      $i(t) = I(t)/N$      $s(t) + i(t) = 1$

$$\boxed{N = S(t) + I(t)} \\ S(0) = I(0) = N/2$$

# Computing How An Epidemic Progresses

- In continuous time:

$$\frac{di}{dt} = \beta \cdot I \cdot \frac{S}{N}$$

Increase in # infectibles per unit time

Total attempted contacts per unit time

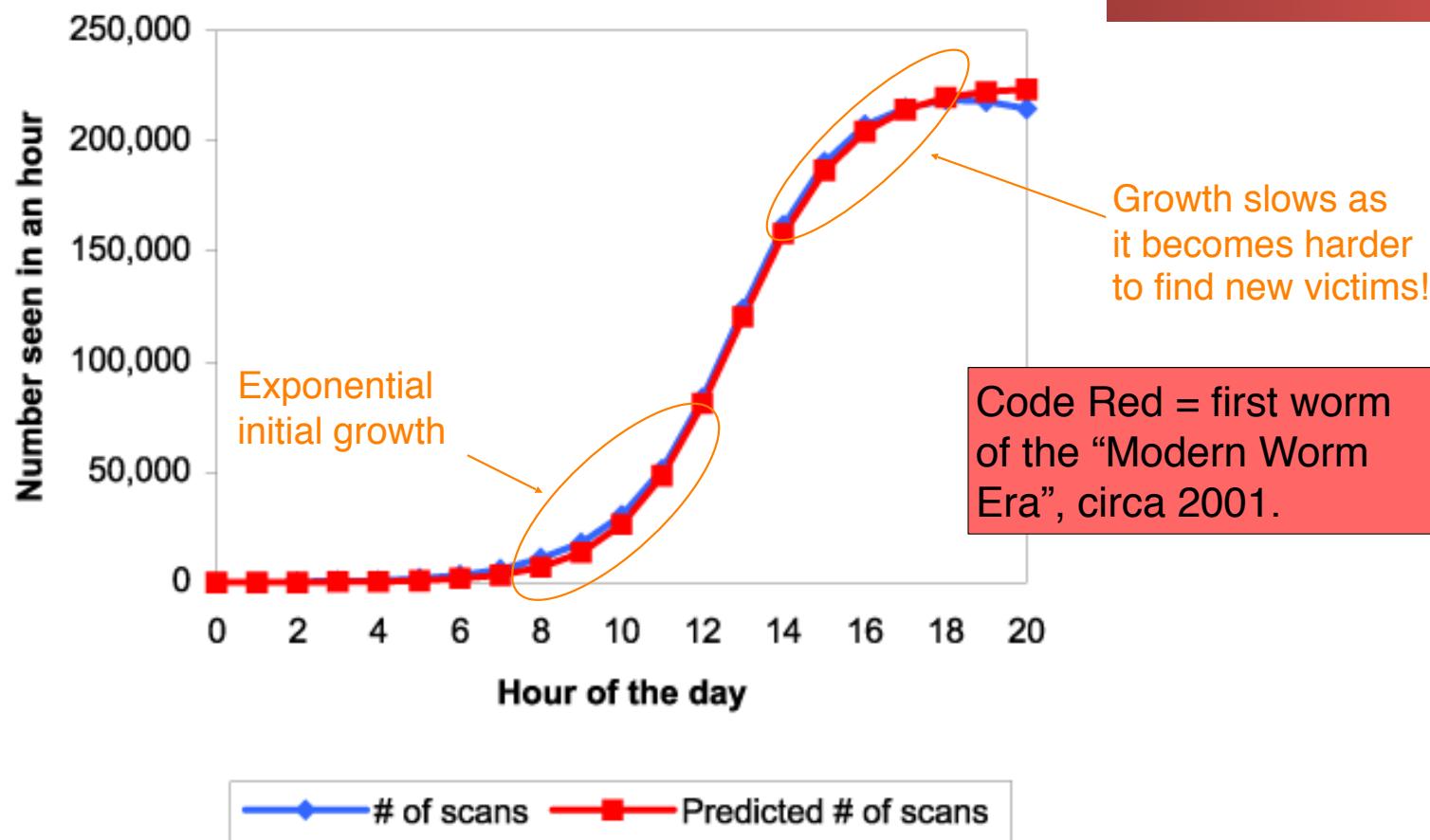
Proportion of contacts expected to succeed

- Rewriting by using  $i(t) = I(t)/N$ ,  $S = N - I$ :

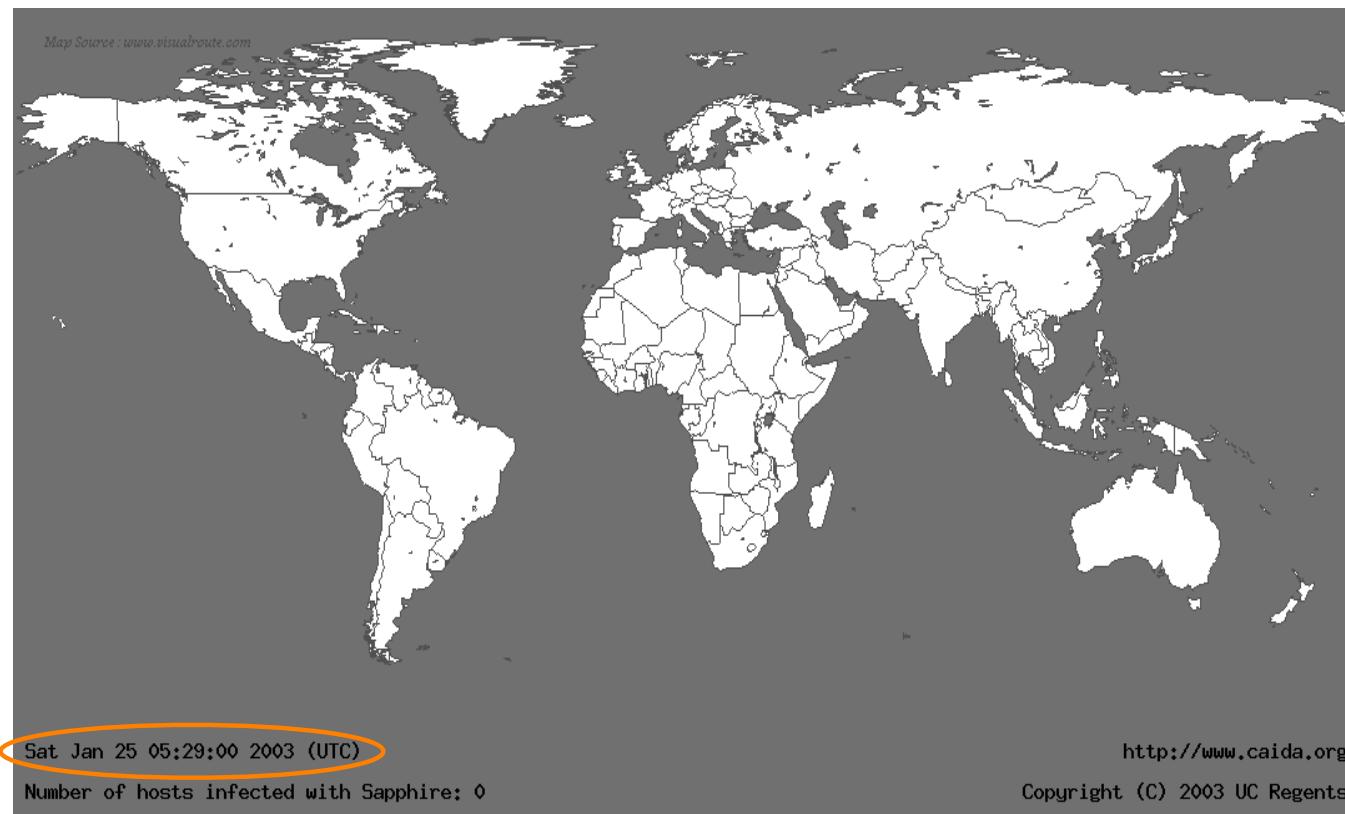
$$\frac{di}{dt} = \beta i(1 - i) \Rightarrow i(t) = \frac{e^{\beta t}}{1 + e^{\beta t}}$$

Fraction infected grows as a logistic

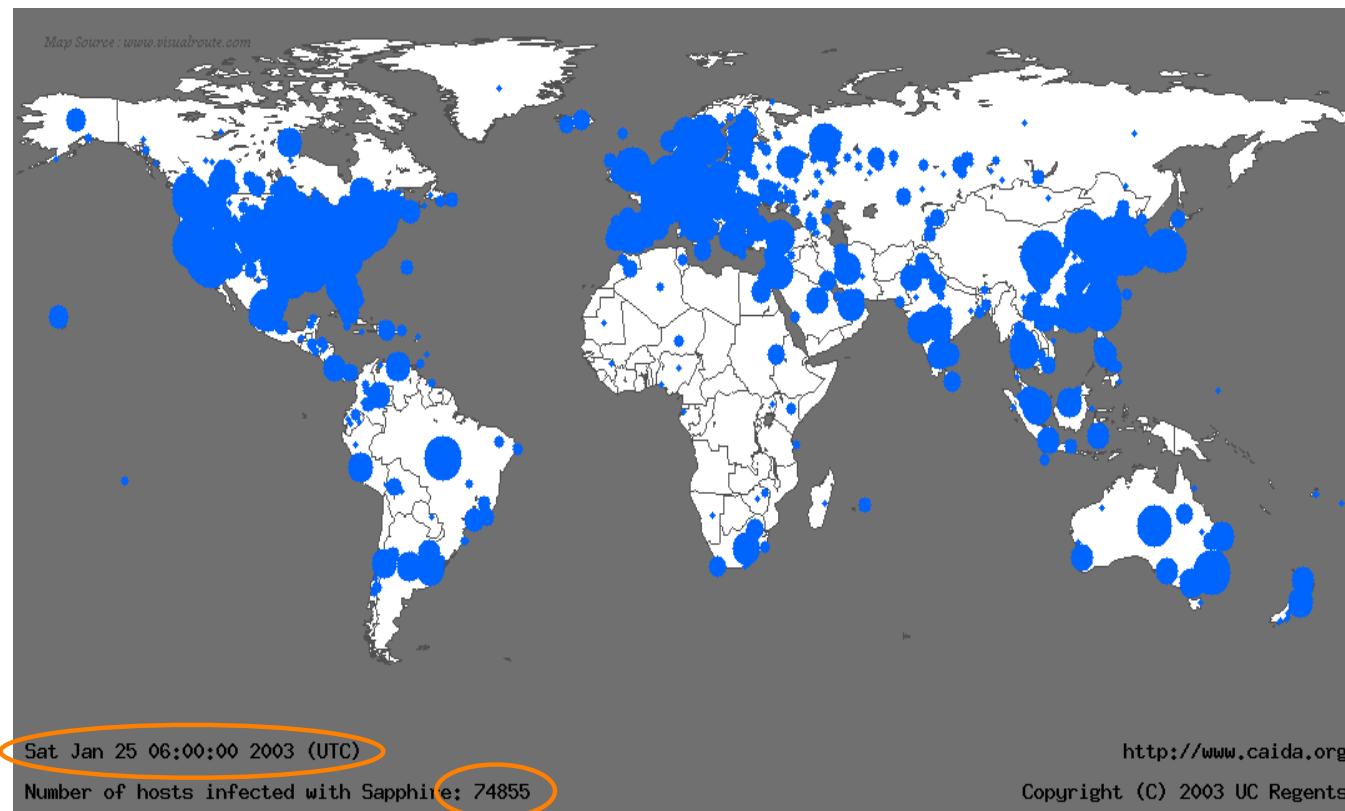
# Fitting the Model to “Code Red”



# Life Just Before Slammer



# Life 10 Minutes After Slammer



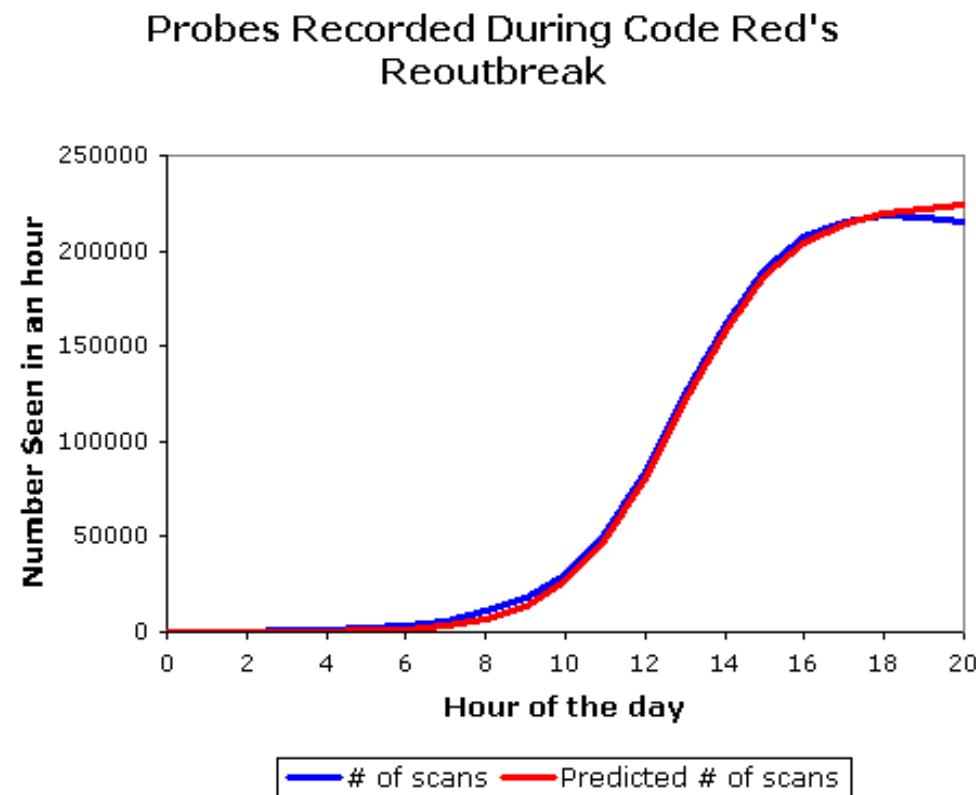
# Going Fast: Slammer

- Slammer exploited connectionless UDP service, rather than connection-oriented TCP
- Entire worm fit in a single packet!
- ⇒ When scanning, worm could “fire and forget”

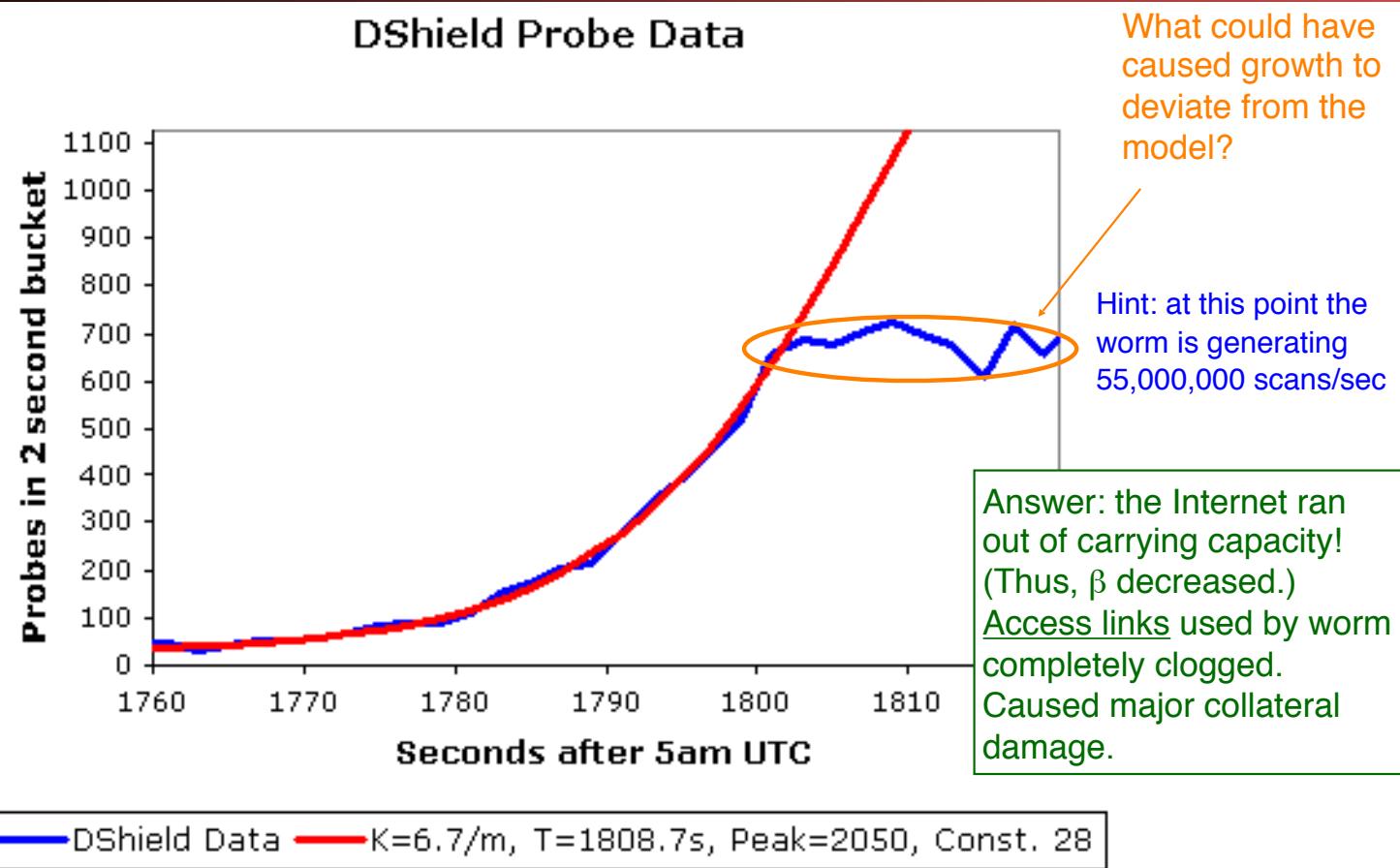
Stateless!

- Worm infected 75,000+ hosts in << 10 minutes
- At its peak, doubled every 8.5 seconds

# The Usual Logistic Growth



# Slammer's Growth



# Witty...

- A worm like Slammer but with a twist...
  - Targeted network intrusion detection sensors!
  - Released ~36 hours after vulnerability disclosure and patch availability!
- Payload wasn't just spreading, however...
  - `while true {  
 for i := range(20000) {  
 send self to random target;  
 }  
 select random disk (0-7)  
 if disk exists {  
 select random block, erase it;  
 } }`

# Stuxnet

- Discovered July 2010. (Released: Mar 2010?)
- Multi-mode spreading:
  - Initially spreads via USB (virus-like)
  - Once inside a network, quickly spreads internally using Windows RPC scanning
- Kill switch: programmed to die June 24, 2012
- Targeted SCADA systems
  - Used for industrial control systems, like manufacturing, power plants
- Symantec: infections geographically clustered
  - Iran: 59%; Indonesia: 18%; India: 8%

# Stuxnet, con't

- Used four Zero Days
  - Unprecedented expense on the part of the author
- “Rootkit” for hiding infection based on installing Windows drivers with valid digital signatures
  - Attacker stole private keys for certificates from two companies in Taiwan
- Payload: do nothing ...
  - ... unless attached to particular models of frequency converter drives operating at 807-1210Hz
  - ... like those made in Iran (and Finland) ...
  - ... and used to operate centrifuges for producing enriched uranium for nuclear weapons

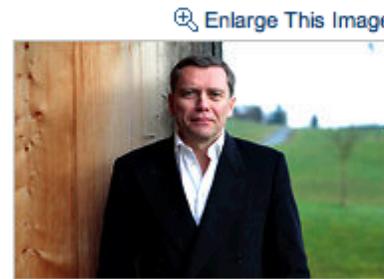
# Stuxnet, con't

- Payload: do nothing ...
  - ... unless attached to particular models of frequency converter drives operating at 807-1210Hz
  - ... like those made in Iran (and Finland) ...
  - ... and used to operate centrifuges for producing enriched uranium for nuclear weapons
- For these, worm would slowly increase drive frequency to 1410Hz
  - ... enough to cause centrifuge to fly apart ...
  - ... while sending out fake readings from control system indicating everything was okay ...
  - ... and then drop it back to normal range

# Israel Tests on Worm Called Crucial in Iran Nuclear Delay

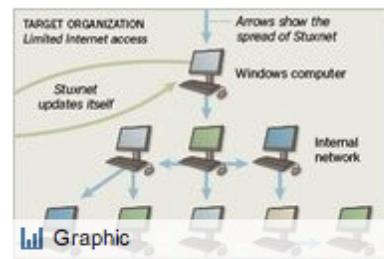
By WILLIAM J. BROAD, JOHN MARKOFF and DAVID E. SANGER  
Published: January 15, 2011

*This article is by William J. Broad, John Markoff and David E. Sanger.*



Nicholas Roberts for The New York Times  
Ralph Langner, an independent computer security expert, solved Stuxnet.

## Multimedia



How Stuxnet Spreads

The Dimona complex in the Negev desert is famous as the heavily guarded heart of [Israel](#)'s never-acknowledged nuclear arms program, where neat rows of factories make atomic fuel for the arsenal.

Over the past two years, according to intelligence and military experts familiar with its operations, Dimona has taken on a new, equally secret role — as a critical testing ground in a joint American and Israeli effort to undermine [Iran](#)'s efforts to make a bomb of its own.

Behind Dimona's barbed wire, the experts say, Israel has spun nuclear centrifuges virtually identical to Iran's at Natanz, where Iranian scientists are struggling to enrich uranium. They say Dimona tested the effectiveness of the [Stuxnet](#) computer worm, a destructive program that appears to have wiped out roughly a fifth of Iran's nuclear



# The "Toddler" Attack Payload...

- Stuxnet was very carefully engineered...
  - Designed to only go off under **very specific** circumstances
- But industrial control systems are inherently vulnerable
  - They consist of sensors and actuators
  - And safety is a **global** property
- Generic Boom:
  - At zero hour, the payload sees that it is on control system:  
map the sensors and actuators, see which ones are low speed vs high speed
  - T+30 minutes: Start replaying sensor data, switch actuators in low-speed system
  - T+60 minutes: Switch all actuators at high speed...
- This **has been done**:  
A presumably Russian test attack on the Ukrainian power grid! ("CrashOverride" attack)

# And NotPetya...

- NotPetya was a worm deliberately launched by Russia against Ukraine
  - Initial spread: A corrupted update to MeDoc Ukrainian Tax Software
  - Then spread within an institution using "Eternal Blue" (Windows vulnerability) and "Mimikatz"
  - Mimikatz is way **way more** powerful:  
Takes advantage of windows transitive authorization...
  - IF you are running on the admin's machine, you can take over the domain controller
  - IF you are running on the domain controller, you can take over **every computer!!!**
- Then wiped machines as fake ransomware
  - Give a veneer of deniability...
  - Shut down Mersk and many other global companies!

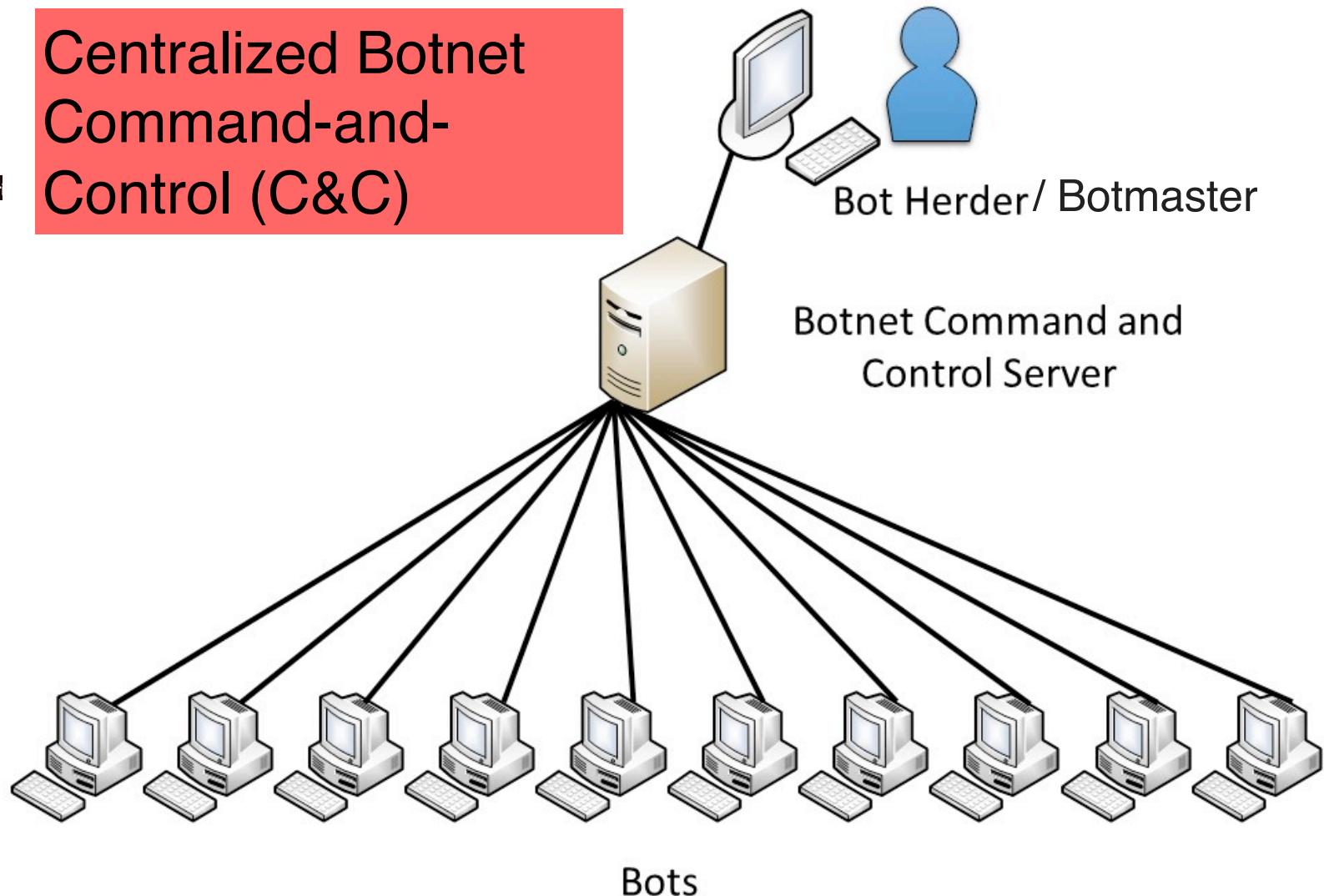
# And Overall Taxonomy of Spread

- Scanning
  - Look for targets
  - Can be bandwidth limited
- "Target Lists"
  - Pregenerated (Hitlist)
  - On-the-host (Topological)
  - Query a third party server that lists servers (Metaserver)
- Passive
  - Wait for a contact: Infect with the counter-response
- More detailed taxonomy here:
  - <http://www.icir.org/vern/papers/taxonomy.pdf>

# Botnets

- Collection of compromised machines (bots) under (unified) control of an attacker (botmaster)
- Method of compromise decoupled from method of control
  - Launch a worm / virus / drive-by infection / etc.
  - (Or just buy the access – discussed later)
- Upon infection, new bot “phones home” to rendezvous w/ botnet command-and-control (C&C)
- Botmaster uses C&C to push out commands and updates
- Lots of ways to architect C&C:
  - Star topology; hierarchical; peer-to-peer
  - Encrypted/stealthy communication

# Centralized Botnet Command-and-Control (C&C)



# Example of C&C Messages

1. Activation (report from bot to botmaster)
2. Email address harvests
3. Spamming instructions
4. Delivery reports
5. DDoS instructions
6. FastFlux instructions (rapidly changing DNS)
7. HTTP proxy instructions
8. Sniffed passwords report
9. IFRAME injection/report

From the “Storm”  
botnet circa 2008

# Fighting Bots / Botnets

- How can we defend against bots / botnets?
- Approach #1: prevent the initial bot infection
  - Equivalent to preventing malware infections in general .... HARD
- Approach #2: Take down the C&C master server
  - Find its IP address, get associated ISP to pull plug

# Fighting Bots / Botnets

- How can we defend against bots / botnets?
- Approach #1: prevent the initial bot infection
  - Equivalent to preventing malware infections in general .... HARD
- Approach #2: Take down the C&C master server
  - Find its IP address, get associated ISP to pull plug
- Botmaster countermeasures?
  - Counter #1: keep moving around the master server
    - Bots resolve a domain name to find it (e.g. c-and-c.evil.com)
    - Rapidly alter address associated w/ name (“fast flux”)
  - Counter #2: buy off the ISP ... (“bullet-proof hosting”)

WEB  
BulletProof

**bulletproof hosting**  
**BulletProof Web**  
"exceeding expectations"

Write us:  
**LIVE CHAT**  
CREATE TICKET

EN RU

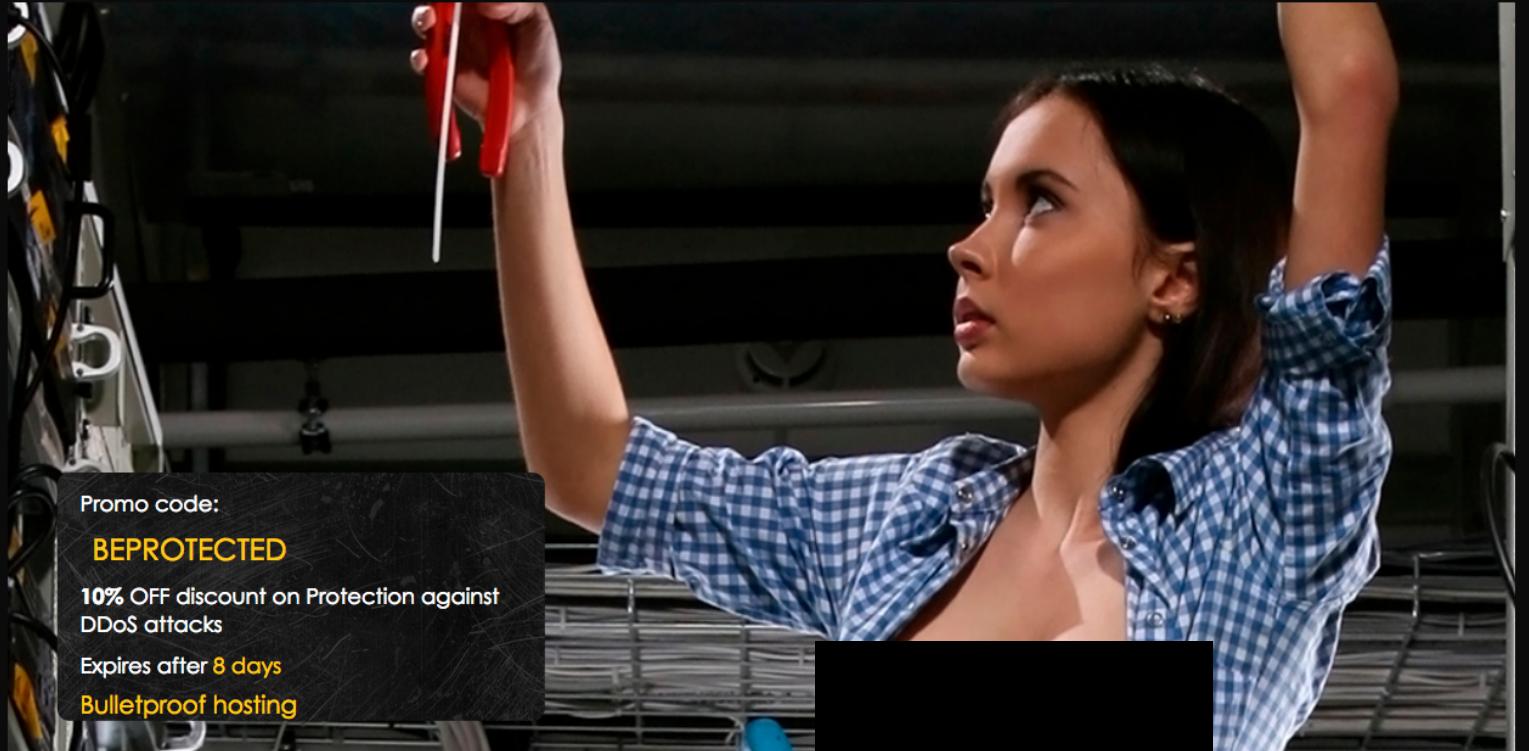
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Client Area

FAQ Offers Terms Partnership About News Blog

BulletProof Servers BulletProof VPS BulletProof Domains DDoS Protection VPN

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Promo code:  
**BEPROTECTED**  
10% OFF discount on Protection against  
DDoS attacks  
Expires after 8 days  
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Use promo NICETOMEETYOU and get 35%...

News

15.04.2015 [Hello world!](#)

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**BulletProof Web**

"exceeding expectations"

**bulletproof hosting**

**BulletProof Servers**

- in CyberBunker
- in Netherlands
- in Moldova
- in Russia
- in Ukraine
- in Sweden

Promo code:  
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**BulletProof VPS**

**BulletProof Domains**

**DDoS Protection**

**VPN**

**Write us:**

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**Client Area**

**FAQ** **Offers** **Terms** **Partnership** **About** **News** **Blog**

**Blog**

08.04.2016 <https://bpw.sc/BulletProof-Servers/>

35% discount on bulletproof servers and VPS  
Use promo NICETOMEETYOU and get 35%...

15.04.2015 [Hello world!](#)

## BulletProof Server in Ukraine



fm. \$399 USD



### Configurable Options

Processor:	2x intel Xeon L5520
Memory:	24 Gb +\$50
Discs:	2000 Gb +\$45
Network:	100 Mb/s (unlim.)
Dedicated IP:	4 +\$30
Operating System:	FreeBSD-10-amd64
Panel:	ISPmanager +\$20
Backup size:	5 Gb +\$10
Administration:	Optimum +\$50

Getting a bulletproof server in Ukraine is actually a really good idea if you have limited options. If you can't use servers in Russia or in other European countries, a Ukraine bulletproof server is an excellent choice.

The best part about bulletproof servers in Ukraine is its loose rules in content. You won't have to worry about third parties complaining about your content because it's pretty much a haven for internet marketers operating any form of business online.

Add in the fact that traffic cost is relatively low, getting a bulletproof server in Ukraine makes so much sense for your business. Avail our special offer today!

[Restrictions](#)



## BulletProof VPS in Netherlands



fm. \$90 USD



### Configurable Options

Processor:	2 core Intel Xeon E3 1230 +\$40
Memory:	2048 MiB +\$10
Discs:	100 Gb +\$20
Network:	unlimited (100Mb/s)
Dedicated IP:	2 +\$15
Operating System:	CentOS-6-amd64
Panel:	ISPmanager +\$20
Backup size:	5 Gb +\$10
Administration:	Optimum +\$50

If you want a truly authentic European quality connectivity, then our **bulletproof VPS in Netherlands** is the perfect pick for you.

With our promise of 100% uptime, you are getting an unbelievable deal. Because Netherlands have very friendly laws when it comes to content distribution, you can run websites and businesses that may contain sensitive content within Europe.

Simply put – if a certain content is banned to operate in other EU countries, it's probably legal in Netherlands. So if you want a piece of that business, going with a **Bulletproof VPS in Netherlands** is a move you should make.

You can enjoy stellar security, uptime, privacy, and smooth operations from start to finish with our **Netherlands bulletproof VPS service**. Contact us today and feel the difference!

#### [Restrictions](#)



## About Us

### Who are we and what do we do?

Our company has been in business since 2009, when it was registered in an offshore zone of the Seychelles Islands.

Most of our work is focused on providing reliable bulletproof hosting with protection from any encroachment, maintaining our clients' rights to full freedom of information and independence.

We distribute information on trustworthy platforms in Russia, Ukraine, EU countries and China. There is plenty of room for another project on the internet – and we are prepared to provide you with it.

We have always carefully protected clients' websites from all attacks and claims. Our company policy, combined with experience, technical professionalism and time-tested arrangements with data centers guarantee that all data on our servers is fully protected from intervention by authorities, bothersome right holders, and organizations like Spamhaus.

We value and treasure freedom on the internet because this is one of the few places where it still remains.

### What are the advantages of working with us?

#### Bulletproof protection

Our defining trait is our willingness to provide services which are not easily blocked by third parties. Unlike ordinary hosts, which terminate services upon receiving any sort of claim against their client, we do not let our customers be bullied. A wide variety of platforms and internal arrangements allow us to prevent attempts by ill-wishers to block your projects.

#### Experience

Our team has been working in the sphere of bulletproof hosting for over five years. Throughout this period, we've dealt with the toughest problems, provided services to the most diverse clients, cooperated with the most reliable partners and now wish to attain even more experience with your help.

#### An individual approach

Share your projects with us, and we will provide ideal conditions for their existence, given our skill in the technical and legal field.

We can do the following:

- Select a country whose current legislation will not impede the distribution of your materials;
- Find a platform that will best suit your requirements;
- Accept payment in any form convenient for you, including Bitcoin, which maintains the highest level of anonymity of online payments;
- Set up and configure hardware best suited for your projects;
- Provide high-quality, around-the-clock support for all of your project's stages;
- Guarantee protection from claims and abrupt failure of equipment;
- Ensure stable functioning of your project;



## Blog → Why You Need Bulletproof Hosting

Imagine yourself spending so much time, money, and resources on your internet venture. Actually, you don't even need to 'imagine' because I'm pretty sure you've spent a considerable amount of time and cash into making money online.

But if for some reason, your tactics are closer to blackhat and grayhat, then your hard work could be in jeopardy.

As you know, big companies like Google can just penalize your website whenever they please. Once they find out that you aren't exactly playing by the rules, you could get the ban hammer.

Nevermind Google... How about your own government chasing you around for running a porn tube or an online gambling site? That's a very serious issue that you surely don't want to be part of.

You could end up paying a huge amount of cash to the government, or worse — get arrested.

### Restrictions

They are few, but they do exist. We restrict ourselves within the confines of professional ethics, general human morality, and the law of countries our equipment is stationed in.

For these reasons, we do not support:

- email spam
- all forms of fraud
- child pornography
- fascism and terrorism
- violence
- activity deemed illegal in countries our equipment is stationed in

# Fighting Bots / Botnets, con't

- Approach #3: seize the domain name used for C&C
- ... Botmaster counter-measure?
- Business counter-measure: bullet-proof domains

## Bulletproof domain registration

Type in the domain you wish to register below to check for availability.

www. myhackersite|.com ▾ GO!

**BulletProof Domains**

Payment methods: VISA, MasterCard, PayPal, Bitcoin, WebMoney, Skrill, Paxum, SEPA, Wire transfer

FAQ Offers Terms About

Registration of bulletproof domains is conducted by our partners based in China. The reliability of our partners is clearly highlighted by over 5 years of our collaboration and thousands of registered domains.

Bulletproof domains are a must-have for undertaking projects with ample and fierce competition. With bulletproof domains, your project will finally be able to function, undeterred by adversaries' attempts to block it through complaints to the domain registrar, while other domains registered from ordinary registrars get blocked in the same circumstances.

Don't let yourself be pressured or threatened - register bulletproof domains!

**BulletProof Server in CyberBunker**

BulletProof Hosting since 2009 © BulletProof Web Inc.

## Bulletproof domain registration

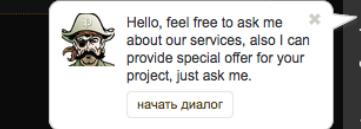


Type in the domain you wish to register below to check for availability.

www. myhackersite .com ▾ GO!

### Choose Domains

Domain Name	Status	More Info
myhackersite.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Available! Order Now	1 Year/s @ \$35 ▾
myhackersite.net	<input type="checkbox"/> Available! Order Now	1 Year/s @ \$35 ▾
myhackersite.org	<input type="checkbox"/> Available! Order Now	1 Year/s @ \$35 ▾
myhackersite.biz	<input type="checkbox"/> Available! Order Now	1 Year/s @ \$35 ▾
myhackersite.info	<input type="checkbox"/> Available! Order Now	1 Year/s @ \$35 ▾
myhackersite.name	<input type="checkbox"/> Available! Order Now	1 Year/s @ \$35 ▾



Customer Service

2

## DDoS Protection



fm. \$295 USD

**Configurable Options**

Anti-DDoS:

- IP protection +\$489
- IP protection +\$489
- Domain protection

**Billing Cycle**

1 mo.  3 mo.  6 mo.  yearly

Total Due Today: \$784  
Total Recurring Monthly: \$784

[Checkout »](#)

Do you need an additional protection for your resource?  
Are rivals and ill-wishers trying to disable it?  
Our service for **protection against DDoS attacks** will put your mind at ease and help you forget about such problems once and for all!  
The most powerful protection will **defeat a DDoS attack** of up to 180 Gbps and 120 million Pps.



Customer Service



# Fighting Bots / Botnets, con't

- Approach #3: seize the domain name used for C&C
- ... Botmaster counter-measure?
- Business counter-measure: bullet-proof domains
- Technical counter-measure: DGAs
  - Each day (say), bots generate large list of possible domain names using a Domain Generation Algorithm
    - Large = 50K, in some cases
    - E.g.: eqxowsn.info, ggegtugh.info, hquterpacw.net, oumaac.com, qfiadxb.net, rwoehbkhdhb.info, rzziyf.info, vmlbhdvtjrn.org, yeiesmomgeso.org, yeuqik.com, yfewtvnpdk.info, zffezlkgfnox.net
  - Bots then try a random subset looking for a C&C server
    - Server signs its replies, so bot can't be duped
    - Attacker just needs to register & hang onto a small portion of names to retain control over botnet

# Fighting Bots / Botnets, con't

- Approach #4: rally the community to sever bullet-proof hosting service's connectivity



# Security Fix

Brian Krebs on Computer Security

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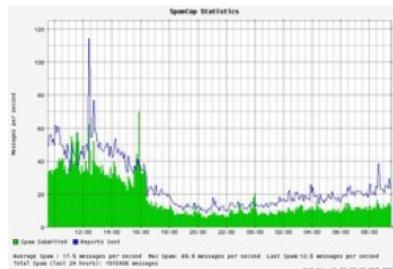
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## Spam Volumes Drop by Two-Thirds After Firm Goes Offline

The volume of junk e-mail sent worldwide plummeted on Tuesday after a Web hosting firm identified by the computer security community as a major host of organizations engaged in spam activity was taken offline. (Note: A link to the full story on McColo's demise is available [here](#).)



Experts say the precipitous drop-off in spam comes from Internet providers unplugging **McColo Corp.**, a hosting provider in Northern California that was the home base for machines responsible for coordinating the sending of roughly 75 percent of all spam each day.

In an alert sent out Wednesday morning, e-mail security firm **IronPort** said:

In the afternoon of Tuesday 11/11, IronPort saw a drop of almost 2/3 of overall spam volume, correlating with a drop in IronPort's SenderBase queries. While we investigated what we thought might be a technical problem, a major spam network, McColo Corp., was shutdown, as reported by The Washington Post on Tuesday evening.

Spamcop.net's graphic [shows a similar decline](#), from about 40 spam e-

# Fighting Bots / Botnets, con't

- Approach #4: rally the community to sever bullet-proof hosting service's connectivity
- Botmaster countermeasure?
- Who needs to run a bot when you can buy just-in-time bots ... !

# The Malware “Pay Per Install” (PPI) Ecosystem

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Installs4Sale.net

# Installs4Sale.net - надежный сервис по загрузкам, достойный доверия



КОНТАКТЫ

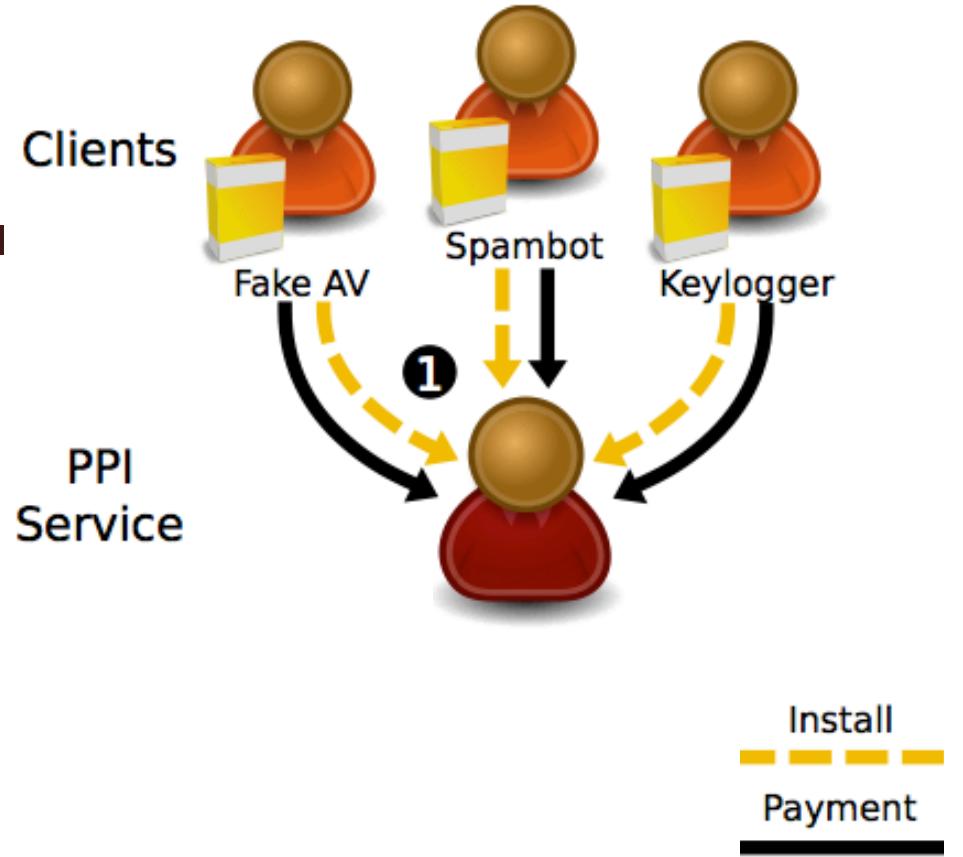
560869831  
550525933  
info [at] installs4sale.net

## ПРИЕМУЩЕСТВА

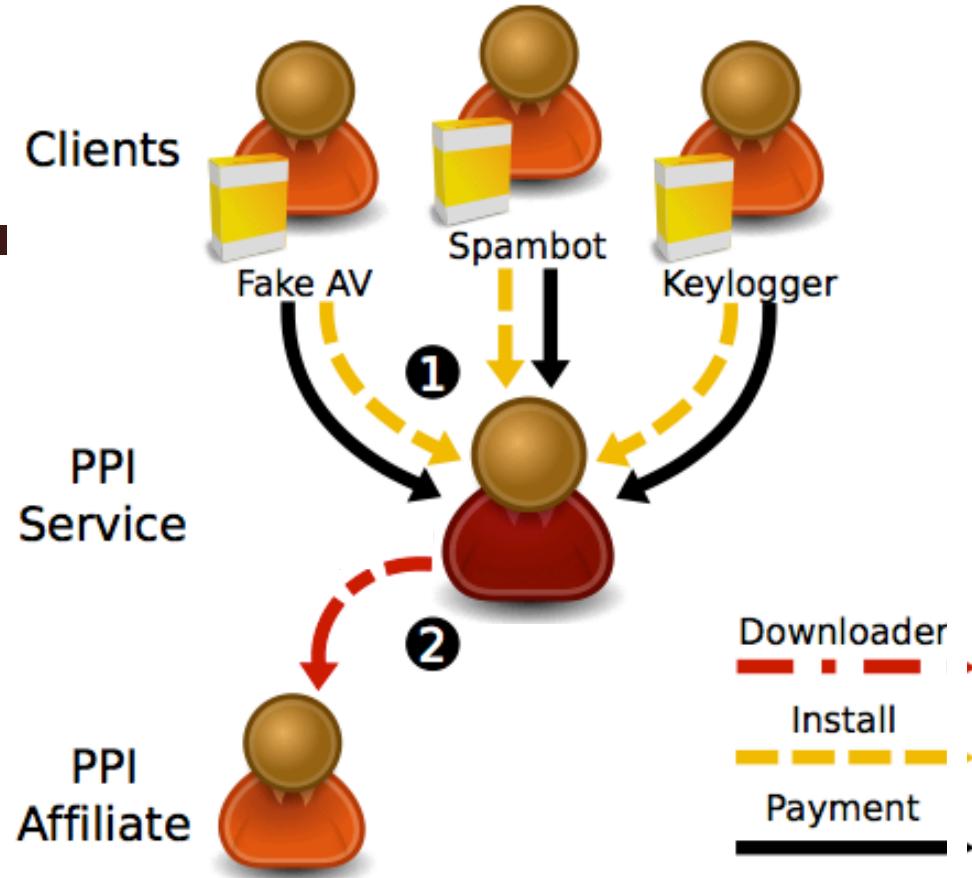
- Быстро осуществляем отгрузку практически в любой регион. Принимаем заказы на миксы стран по вашему выбору.
- Для постоянных клиентов действуют скидки и бонусы в виде дополнительного объема загрузок.
- Поговорите со своим менеджером, и вы получите индивидуальный подход к каждому клиенту в отдельности.



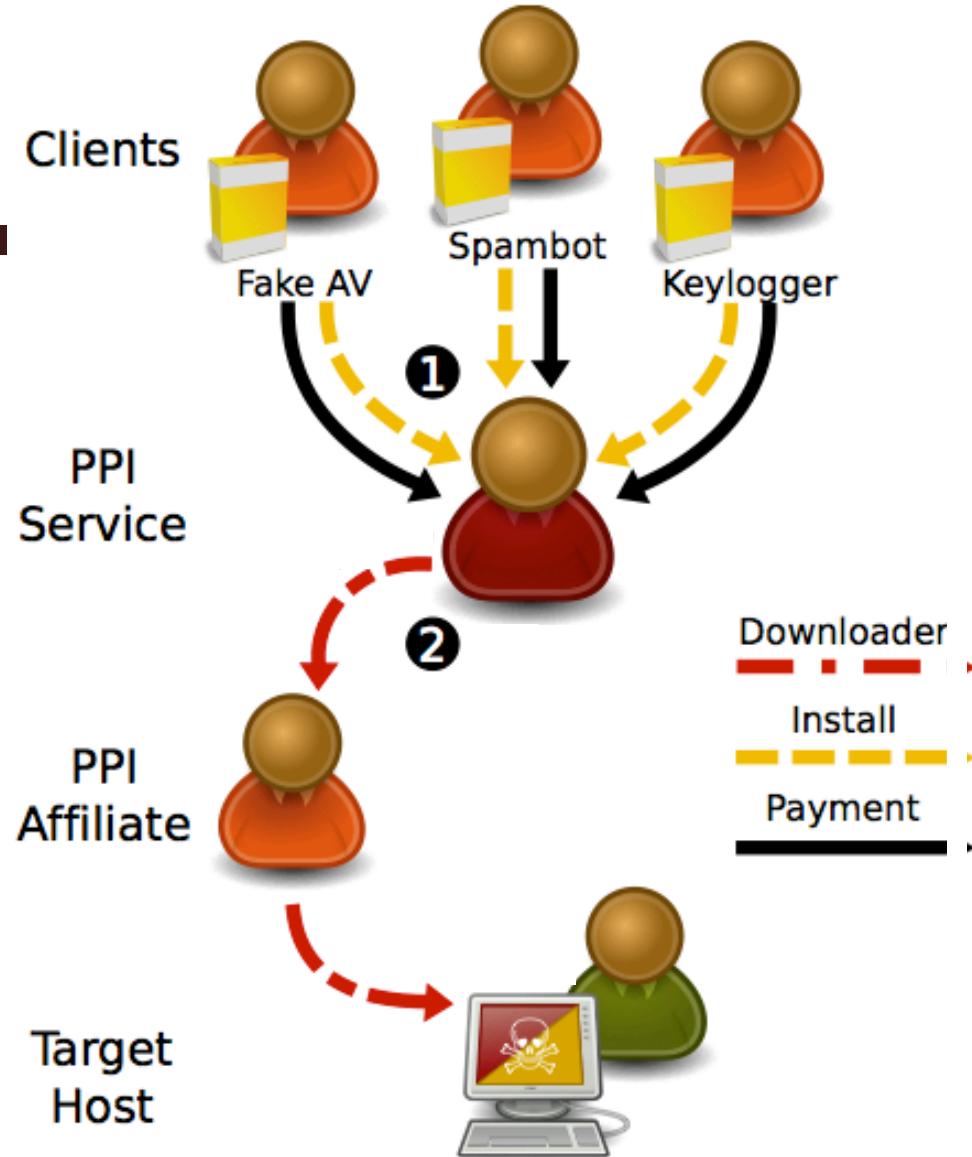
# The PPI Eco-system



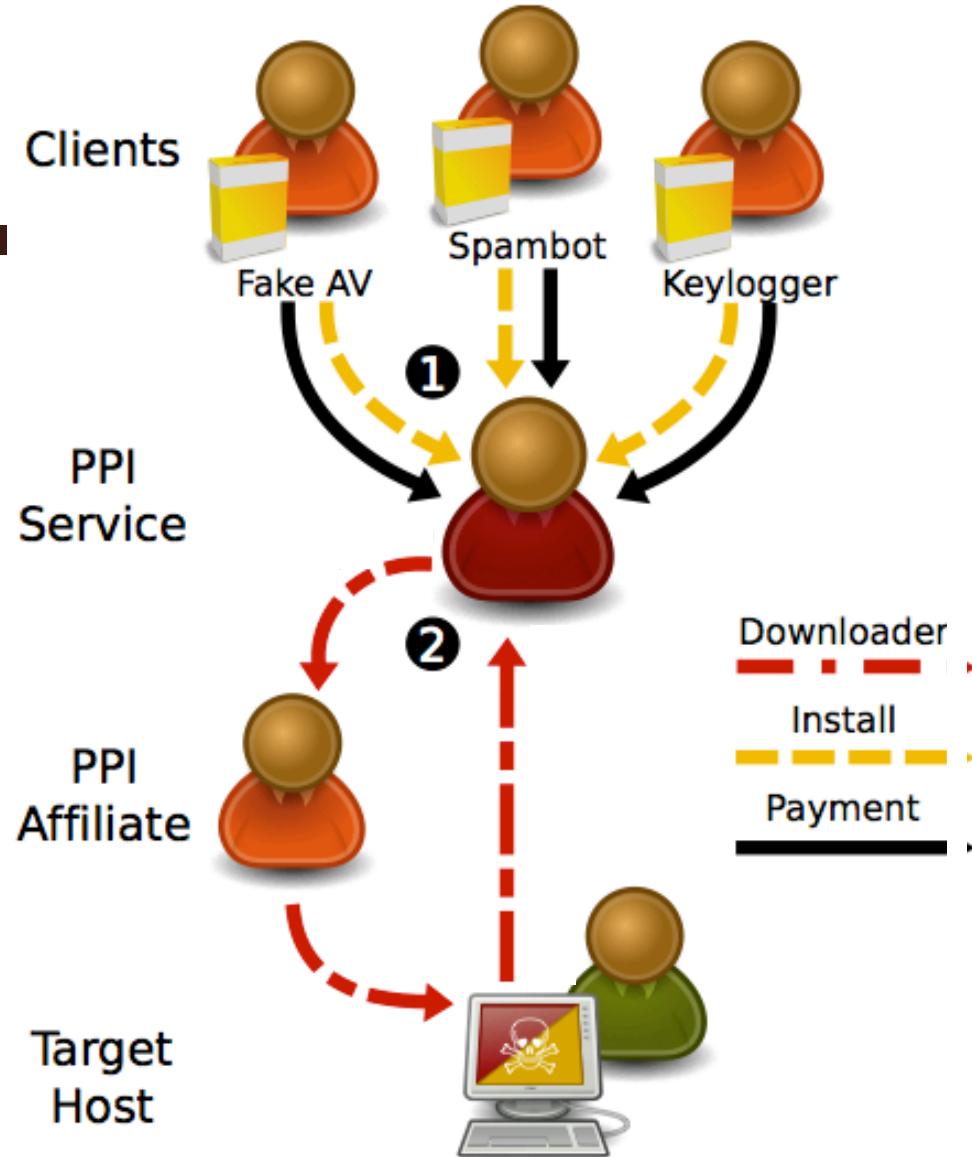
# The PPI Eco-system



# The PPI Eco-system

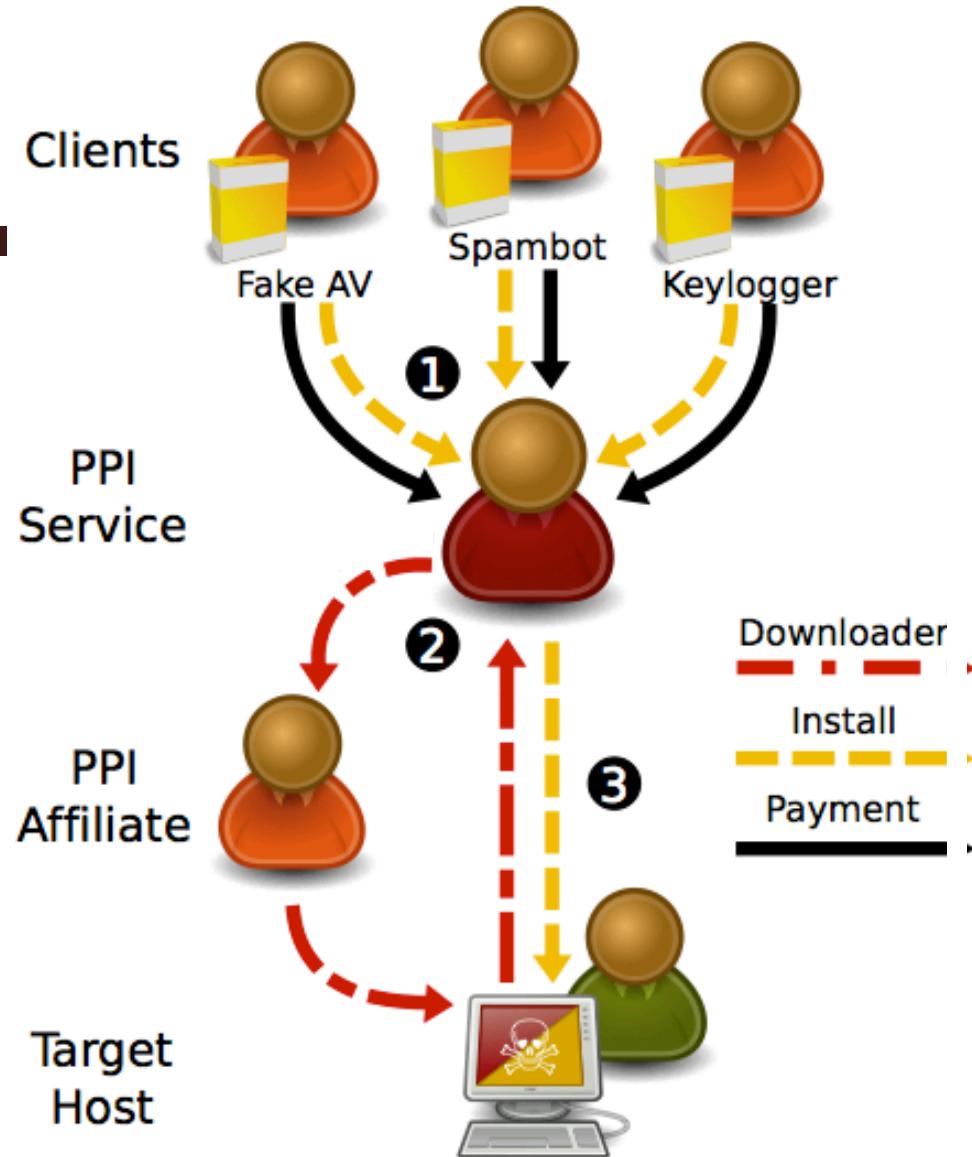


# The PPI Eco-system

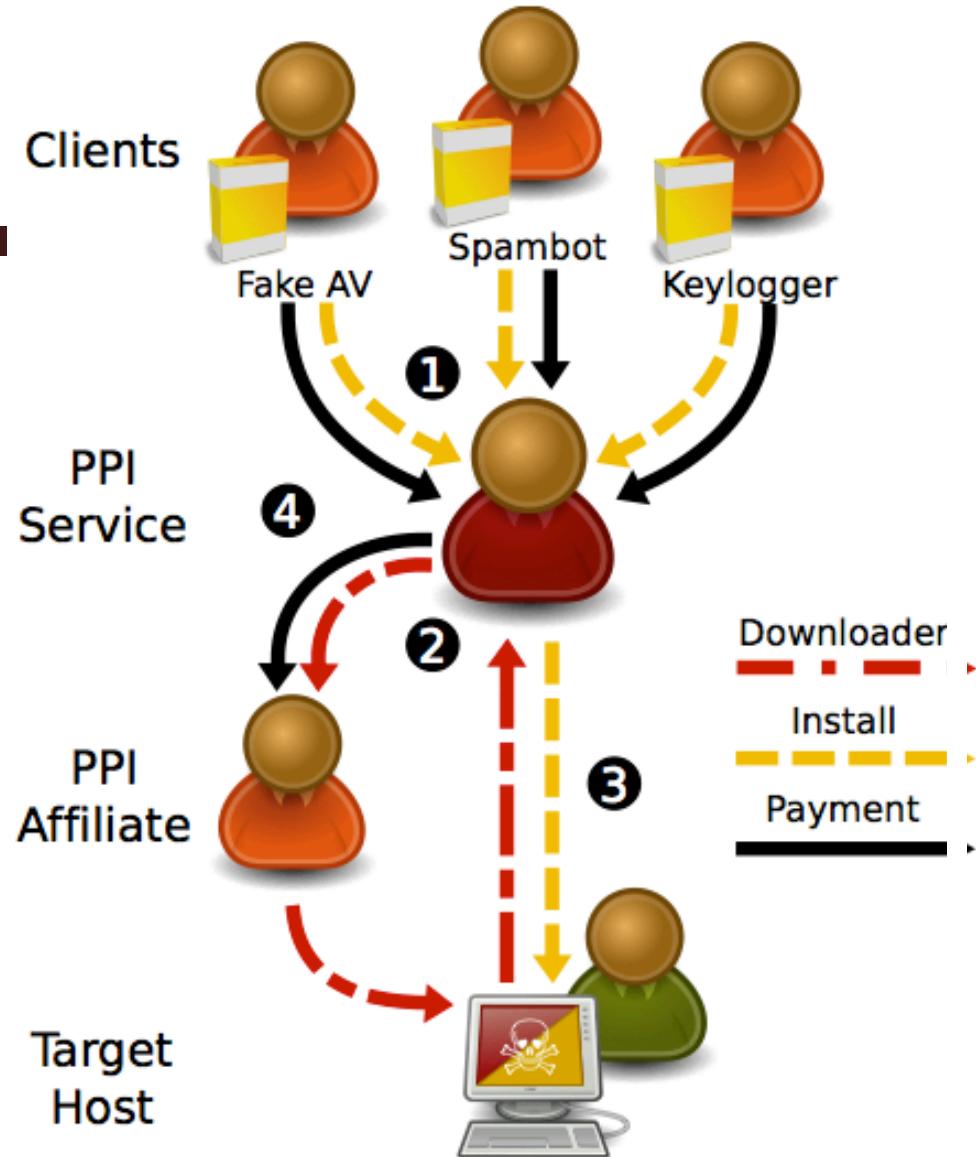


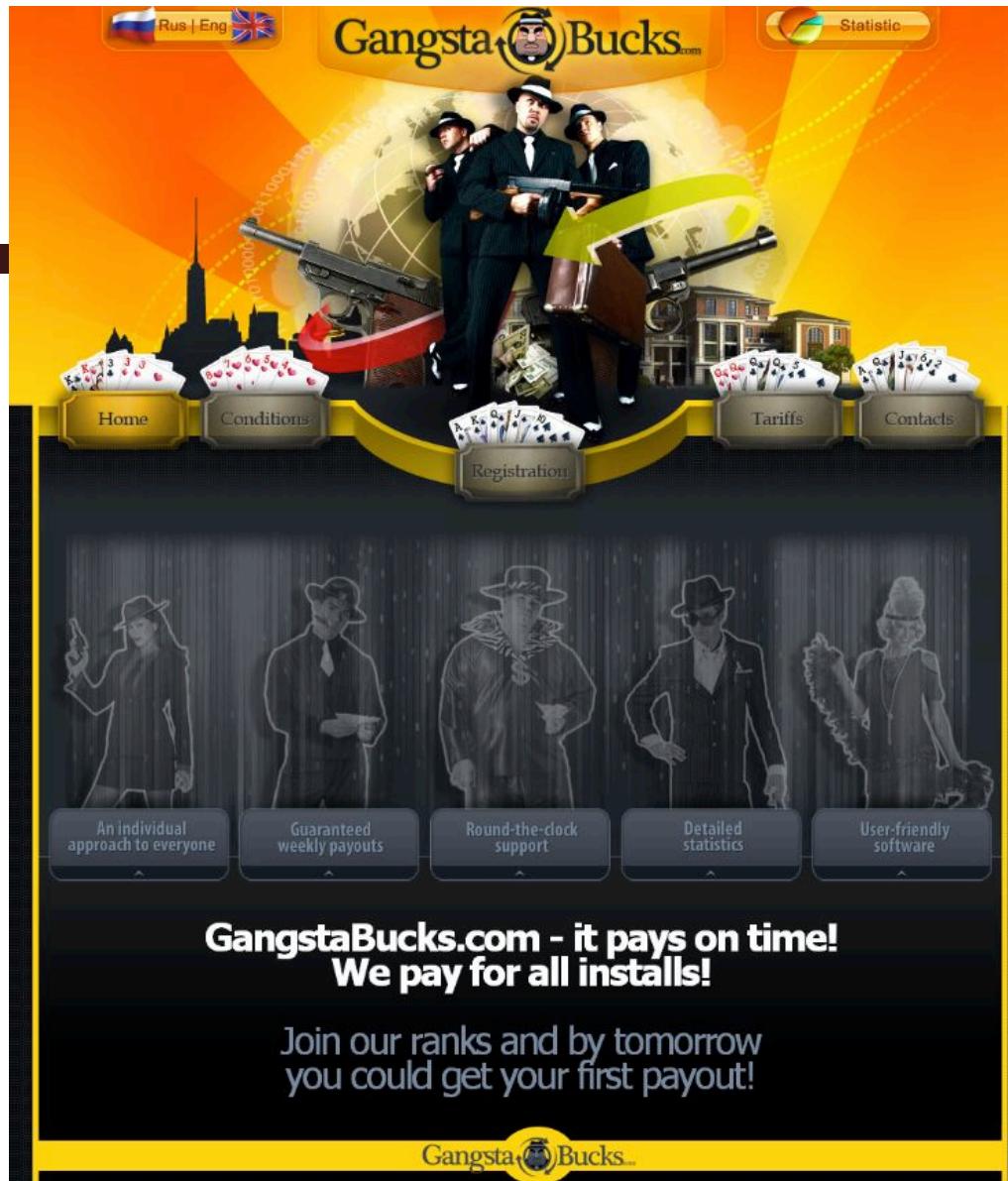
# The PPI Eco-system

- 



# The PPI Eco-system





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Договорится по всем ценам и получить индивидуальные условия вы можете в службе поддержки. Пишите!

Мы отслеживаем уникальность инсталлов и их чистоту перед продажей.

**УСЛОВИЯ**

Мы работаем строго по предоплате. Допускается частичная оплата постоянным клиентам на большие объемы.

Мы не несем ответственности за то что у вас по каким-то причинам отсутствуют загрузки. Если вы не видите инсталлов с первых минут мы можем пристановить отгрузку до выяснения обстоятельств.

**ТАРИФЫ**

GB (Англия)	150\$
DE (Германия)	150\$
USA (США)	130\$
IT (Италия)	120\$
Микс (US,CA, AU, GB)	100\$
CA (Канада)	100\$
Микс (Европа)	40\$
Азия	10\$

Все цены указаны за 1000 уникальных загрузок

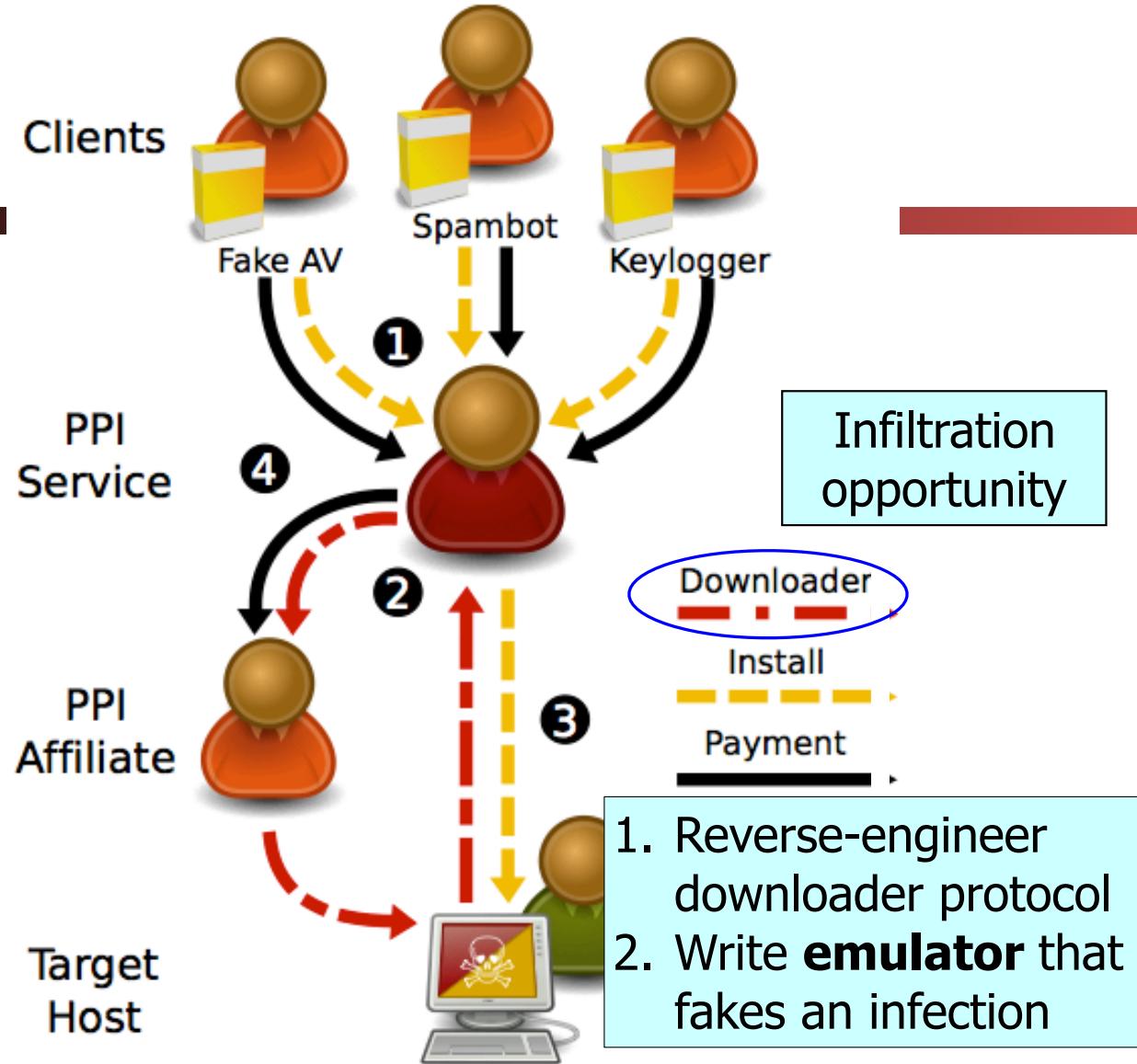
Prices are per thousand installs

Все права защищены

# Fighting Bots / Botnets, con't

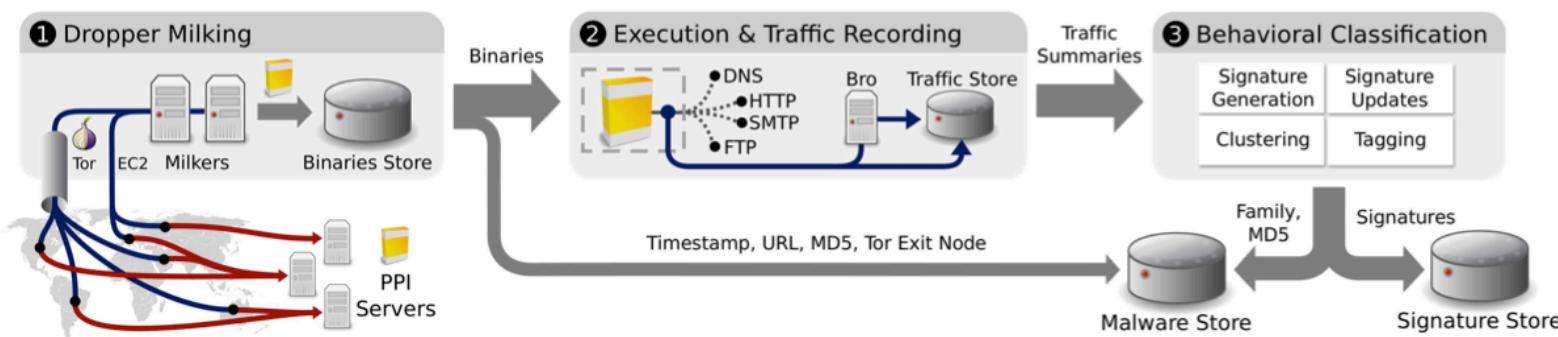
- Approach #4: rally the community to sever bullet-proof hosting service's connectivity
- Botmaster countermeasure?
- Who needs to run a bot when you can buy just-in-time bots ... !
- Approach #5: use the complexity of the malware infrastructure to undermine it ...

# The PPI Eco-system



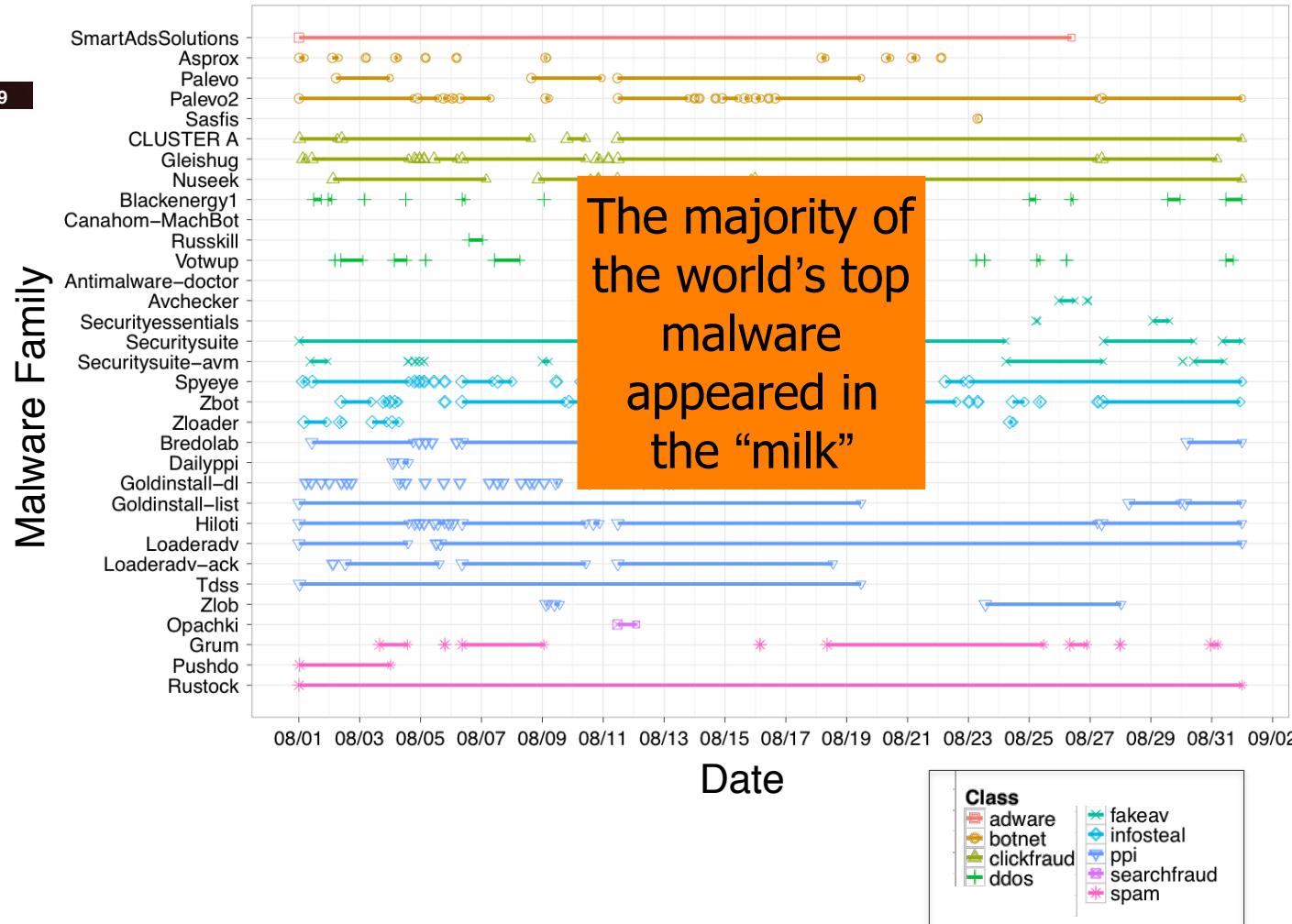
# Intelligence via Infiltration...

“Milking” = mimic downloader, repeatedly ask PPI service for next program to install



Running for five months, Berkeley & UCSD researchers downloaded (“milked”) > 1M binaries (9K distinct) from 4 different affiliate programs

# Malware Extracted via “Milking”



# Addressing The Botnet Problem

- What are our prospects for securing the Internet from the threat of botnets?  
What angles can we pursue?
- Angle #1: detection/cleanup
  - Detecting infection of individual bots hard as it's the defend-against-general-malware problem
  - Detecting bot doing C&C likely a losing battle as attackers improve their sneakiness & crypto
  - Cleanup today lacks oomph:
    - Who's responsible? ... and do they care? (externalities)
    - Landscape could greatly change with different model of liability
- Angle #2: go after the C&C systems / botmasters
  - Difficult due to ease of Internet anonymity & complexities of international law
    - But: a number of successes in this regard
    - Including some via peer pressure rather than law enforcement (McColo)
  - One potential angle: policing domain name registrations

# Addressing The Problem, con't

- Angle #3: prevention
  - Bots require installing new executables or modifying existing ones
  - Perhaps via infection ...
    - ... or perhaps just via user being fooled / imprudent
- Better models?
- We could lock down systems so OS prohibits user from changing configuration
  - Sacrifices flexibility
  - How does this work for home users?
  - Can we leverage trusted kernels + white lists / code signing?
- Or: structure OS/browser so code runs with Least Privilege
  - Does this solve the problem?
  - Depends on how granular the privileges are ... and how the decision is made regarding just what privileges are “least”
    - E.g., iTunes App Store model (vetting), Android model (user confirmation)

# Or Forget Fighting Botnets...

- Fight the ***business models!***
  - If bad guys can't make money, they stop doing it
  - Managed to do this reasonably well for Viagra spam...
  - But can we do this for other areas?

# Worm Take-Aways

- Potentially enormous reach/damage
  - Weapon
- Hard to get right
- Emergent behavior / surprising dynamics
- Remanence: worms stick around
  - E.g. Slammer still seen in 2013!
- Propagation faster than human response