A Project Based Seminar Report

on

"The Cyberspace: Redefining A New World"

Submitted to the

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In partial fulfillment for the award of the Degree of

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in

Information Technology

by

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(Exam Seat No.)

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2022-2023



CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the project based seminar report entitled "Title of seminar" being submitted by XYZ (Exam Seat No.) is a record of bonafide work carried out by him/her under the supervision and guidance of Prof. R. M. Kawale in partial fulfillment of the requirement for TE (Information Technology)-2015 Course of Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune in the academic year 2018-2019.

Date:30/03/2018

Place:Manjari (Bk.), Pune

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(Students Name & Signature)

Abstract

Most difficult and important component of report/seminar is to write abstract. Presented at the beginning of the report, it is likely the first substantive description of your work read by an external examiner/reader. You should view it as an opportunity to set accurate expectations. The abstract is a summary of the whole project work.

It presents all the major elements of your work in a highly condensed form. An abstract often functions, together with the project title, as a stand-alone text. An abstract is not merely an introduction in the sense of a preface, preamble, or advance organizer that prepares the reader for the report.

In addition to that function, it must be capable of substituting for the whole report when there is insufficient time and space for the full text. The final version of the abstract will need to be written after you have finished reading your report for the last time. However, if you think about what it has to contain, you realize that the abstract is really a summary of your project/seminar work.

Your abstract should answer specifi questions: What was done? Why was it done? How was it done? What was found? What is the signficance of the findings?

Contents

Li	List of Figures	i
Li	List of Tables	i
1	INTRODUCTION TO PROJECT TOPIC 1.1 Introduction to Project Topic	1
	1.2 Motivation behind project topic	
	1.3 Aim and Objective(s) of the work	
	1.4 Introduction to Seminar Topic	
	1.4.1 Aim and Objectives of Seminar	
	1.5 Organization of the Report	. 2
2	2 LITERATURE SURVEY OF Seminar Title/Topic	3
3	3 SEMINAR RELATED OTHER CHAPTERS	5
4	CONCLUSION	14
5	REFERENCES	15

List of Figures

1	Example Diagram	 						 									3
	1 0																

List of Tables

1 Tabe no.3.2 Vulnerabilities, Threats Risks	
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1 INTRODUCTION TO PROJECT TOPIC

1.1 Introduction to Project Topic

Students are expected to write brief introduction of the project topic. This section may be common for all the students of that group. However students can have different approach in explaining their project.

Since we are not going to get separate project report from the students, it is good to have one or two pages common for all the students of that project. Once this project introduction and aim objectives of explained, students can start with actual seminar content writing.

1.2 Motivation behind project topic

Students are expected to write "Why they thought about this project". They could also explain the "Explain need of the project". Any statement which motivated to take up this project

1.3 Aim and Objective(s) of the work

Project aims are a statement of the overall "Why" of the project. A project aim is a statement starting with the words: "The aim of this project is..."

That statement tells the reader what your overall goal is, what it is you want to achieve. It does not go into details or describe specific tasks.

Project objectives tell the "How" of the project aim. You want to achieve your goal and the objectives state how this will be done - what major tasks will be undertaken and what your major targets are. Most projects will have between six and nine objectives. A project objective is usually a statement starting with the words "To..."

Objectives are subsidiary to aims and are the steps you are going to take to answer your problem statement or a specific list of tasks needed to accomplish the goals of the project. This must be highly focused and feasible and should address the more immediate project outcomes Guide must personnel check these aim and objectives and make students write these statements properly.

1.4 Introduction to Seminar Topic

Internal guides need to clearly identify separate topics for individual students while preparing seminars. It should be based on project topic/area.

1.4.1 Aim and Objectives of Seminar

• Aim

Write here AIM of Seminar.

• Objectives

Write here Objectives of Seminar.

- 1. Objective 1.
- 2. Objective 2.
- 3. Objective 3.
- 4. Objective 4 and So on.

1.5 Organization of the Report

2 LITERATURE SURVEY OF Seminar Title/Topic

Students are expected to write similar or related work already done by various researchers. They could also explain existing tools/technologies in this section. There advantages and disadvantages of each method or technique. They should also explain how their project is different from those existing systems. You need to read lot of books/ papers/ magazines for making this survey.

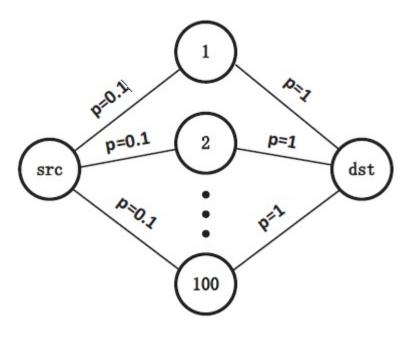


Figure 1: Example Diagram

Table 1: Tabe no.3.2 Vulnerabilities, Threats Risks

Incidents	Jan-June 2012	Jan-June 2013	Increase/ (decrease)
Fraud	2439	2490	2
Intrusion	2203	1726	22
Spam	291	614	111
Malicious code	353	442	25
Cyber Harassment	173	233	35
Content related	10	42	320
Intrusuion Attempts	55	24	56
Denial of Services	12	10	17
Total	5581	5592	

3 SEMINAR RELATED OTHER CHAPTERS

3.1 Cyberspace vs Internet

Internet is a network of networks, what that means is that it is a global network that is creating by linking smaller networks of computers and servers. Cyber-space is nothing more than a symbolic and figurative space that exists within the scope of Internet. There is a lot of confusion between the usage of the terms, Cyberspace and Internet. Many people think that the words mean the space, while others think that they mean two completely different things within the field of technology. The truth of the matter is that it is something in the middle. The terms do mean two different things, but the confusion arises due to the fact that these things are closely interrelated, due of which they are often mistakenly used interchangeably. The term cyberspace has led to the introduction of other words, such as cyber security, cyber-crime, cyber-war, cyber-terrorism, etc. Cyberspace itself comes from cybernetics, which in turn is derived from the Ancient Greek kybernetes, which means steersman, governor, pilot, or rudder. The term cyberspace came into being in regard to managing physical spaces. However, with the onset of the Internet, the term has been applied to the virtual space that is created within the Internet. Cyberspace is nothing more than a symbolic and figurative space that exists within the scope of Internet. It can be said that anything that is done via the use of Internet, occurs within the confines of the cyber-space, whether that is sending an e-mail, a website, or playing a game, all of these things exist within the cyber-space. Internet, on the other hand, is a network of networks, what that means is that it is a global network that is creating by linking smaller networks of computers and servers. This network allows users to share information and other data from one point to another. The data can be in the form of text, image, or video. The terms might be easier to explain the terms via the use of an example. Think of a book. The book itself is akin to the Internet. It is a way for the information, i.e. story or text, to be conveyed from the author to the reader, similar to how the Internet transfers data between two computers (or server and a computer). Now the reader reads the story and imagines it in their mind as a virtual reality that is playing out the story via the characters and dialogues. This virtual reality is the cyberspace. It is how the reader or the user imagines the information that is transferred via the Internet/book.

Internet vs. Cyberspace

<u>INTERNET</u>

Single, interconnected, worldwide system of computer networks that share:

- The Internet Architecture Board (IAB) specified protocol suite
- The name and address spaces managed by the Internet Corp. for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

CYBERSPACE

A global domain within the information environment consisting of an inter-dependent network of information technology infrastructures, including:

- The internet, telecommunications networks
- Computer systems
- Embedded processors and controllers

3.2.1 The Three Major Trends

The purpose of this section is to identify these evolutionary trends and to extrapolate their implications. This section focuses on the accumulation of incremental evolutionary change over long periods. Even individually small quantitative changes, when compounded over time, can bring about great qualitative changes on their own. In addition to evolutionary trends, revolutions are also possible. Trends that have transformative implications will be examined, while fads and flash in the pan issues will be ignored, even though it is not always easy to see the difference while in the midst of major transformations

3.2.1 Computer and network trends

Among the computer and network trends likely to have lasting effect are: increases in computer and network power, proliferation of broadband and wireless connectivity, and upgrades in the fundamental protocols of the Internet. Increase in computer and network power

Broadband proliferation

Another major evolutionary trend in cyberspace is the widespread deployment of broadband Internet services. Cyberspace experienced at a speed of just 56 kilobytes per second, allowing rudimentary Web surfing and data exchangeâis very different from cyberspace at 400 kbps or more. Widespread access to faster connectivity by desktops, laptops, personal digital assistants, and cell phones enables new business models and new social interactions. Just as business and social models were transformed by the move from trains and ocean liners to jet airline flights in the past century, today the richer audio, video, and networked applications supported by higher speed Internet connections make cyberspace significantly more valuable to its users. Many face-to-face transactions and physical exchanges can be supplanted by much less expensive software-based interactions. New services not previously associated with the Internet, including telephony and television, are moving to this plentiful cheap bandwidth. Widespread fiber optics, cable modems, digital subscriber loops/lines (DSL), and broadband wireless services are the technological underpinnings allowing broadband access by consumers or businesses throughout the world (ITU.2004). These technologies have higher speeds(typically greater than 400 kbps) and are also always on, not requiring time consuming dial up handshakes. While broadband deployment is already a reality in many parts of the world, it is not yet universal. Some set of users probably will continue to use dial-up access for some time, but there are likely to be fewer and fewer. Broadband connectivity to the endpoints of computer communication is only possible if the Internet backbone itself can carry all of the extra traffic generated by these end systems. Internet backbone providers have deployed more high-speed links, using new fiber technologies such as OCâ48 and OCâ 192 with operating speeds of 2.488 Gigabits per second and 10 Gigabits per second, respectively. Higher speed satellite and microwave towers are interconnecting high-speed networks around the world. Interconnectivity between various backbone providers has increased to carry more traffic more quickly. As this interconnectivity grows, the topology of the Internet backbone becomes more complex from a design and management perspective. As client computers increasingly rely on broadband access, and as the Internet infrastructure is refined to carry all of those bits, the servers to which the communications are directed likewise need additional computational and network power to provide new services. Faster servers can help deal with some of these needs, but most large Internet companies are instead relying on larger numbers of less expensive servers, distributed across one or more campuses around the world. Large Internet companies (Google, Amazon, eBay, and Microsoft) are constructing vast server farms. For instance, Googleas server count was half a million computers in 2007. Business models are also evolving, as Internet service providers (ISPs) try to furnish value-added services and applications on top of their increasingly commoditized bandwidth business. To realize the business value in the telephony, video, and various other applications and content being distributed via their pipes, some ISPs are partnering with, buying, or building in-house application services and content.

Such services and content are directly affiliated with that ISP, in contrast to other services that are not affiliated but that are accessed through that ISP by its customers. This evolution has led some ISPs to consider charging non affiliated application service providers and users a premium for their use of high bandwidth. Those that do not pay extra may face lower performance, with their traffic handled at a lower priority than higher paying affiliated users and application providers. This economic friction between ISPs and application service providers is a worldwide phenomenon and has been termed the Net neutrality issue. Some argue that governments should require the equal or neutral handling of affiliate and non-affiliate traffic alike by ISPs, to foster interoperability and prevent the fragmentation of the Internet into various ISP enclaves

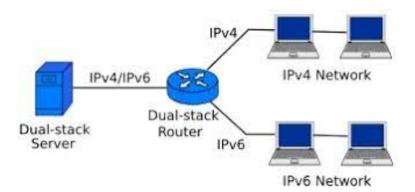
Wireless proliferation

Cyberspace connectivity is increasingly moving to wireless communication, in the form of wireless local area networks (WLANs), wireless broadband, and similar technologies. One of the major vectors of this move is often overlooked in discussions of cyberspace the cell phone. An estimated two billion people have access to cell phones. Over 150 million camera phones have been sold to date, each supporting voice, text, and image transfer. Even with low bandwidth text messaging, their small size, decentralized communications capacity and relatively low cost have made cell phones an increasingly important technology underlying social change Where todayâs cell phones have simple text messaging and still cameras, future cell phones with higher bandwidth applications and full video capabilities are likely to have even greater impact as they gain the capabilities of modern personal computers and become, in effect, pocket-sized television studios. The hand-held video cameras of the late 1980s and early 1990s led to countless major news stories, such as the 1992 Rodney King riots in Los Angeles. However, that technology was limited: few people carried cameras with them most of the time, and the technology required the cumbersome handling of physical videotapes, typically delivered by hand or by courier. By contrast, when a major portion of the worldas population carries cell phoneabased video cameras wirelessly linked to the Internet at all times, cell phones will likely have a much larger impact on society, as when camera-equipped cell phones disseminated graphic pictures and video, albeit of low quality, of the execution of Saddam Hussein in 2006 within minutes of the event. Todayâs grainy cell phone photos and simple videos will be replaced by much better multi-megapixel video cameras integrated into cell phones as video capture technology becomes smaller, cheaper, and more widely disseminated. Already television news outlets in some countries ask members of the public to submit cell phone video of events immediately after they happen. Web sites offer to broker the sale of videos of hot news events taken by private individuals. These trends decrease the time between an eventâs occurrence and its coverage in the news, further shrinking the news reporting cycle and the time available for the public and policymakers to analyze events. Numerous other wireless technologies are transforming the nature of cyberspace. WLANs, in their most popular form, are implemented according to a set of standards denominated 802.11. Such WiFi networks allow nearby systems (within perhaps 100 meters) communicating with one another or gaining access to the Internet. Computers from wired access make it possible to use them for a wider variety of applications, ranging from industrial use to home appliances. By minimizing the need for costly wiring installations, WLANs allow for more rapid network deployment at much lower costs. A variety of organizations have taken advantage of this

Transition from IPv4 to IPv6

The current Internet infrastructure is based on the widely deployed IPv4, a specification originally created in the late 1970s that spread widely in the early 1980s and throughout the 1990s as the Internet grew. This protocol far exceeded its original expectations, becoming the common language for communication across the Internet and large numbers of private networks, and allowing a huge variety of devices afrom mainframe systems to cell phones ato communicate. Despite its unprece-

dented success as a protocol, the original IPv4 design had significant drawbacks: a limited number of network addresses that were distributed inefficiently, no built-in support for security, a lack of quality-of-service features, and limited support for mobile devices. To address these shortcomings, the Internet Engineering Task Force set out in the mid-1990s to define a next-generation Internet protocol, termed IPv6. While the IPv6 specifications were completed sometime ago, full deployment has been slow. Most modern operating systems have IPv6 software, but few use it.Pockets of IPv6 networks exist in specialized laboratory and educational environments. Small IPv6 networks have been overlaid on the existing IPv4 Internet, with network nodes run by academics, researchers, and hobbyists around the world. One of the major reasons IPv6 deployment has moved slowly involves the innovative retrofitting of its various concepts into the existing IPv4. (30) Most organizations have deployed various network address translation devices to shuffle and reuse private network addresses, somewhat alleviating the original constraints of IPv4âs 32-bit addresses. Likewise, quality of service and mobility options have been implemented in IPv4. These adaptations to IPv4âs limits have eased many of the pain points driving the demand for IPv6. Although IPv6 deployment has started slowly, it is expected to ramp up; both the Chinese government and the U.S. military have announced intentions to move to IPv6 to support the modernization of their large networks. Even so, some Internet experts have viewed IPv6 deployment as a perpetual five years in the future always predicted, but never actually occurring. However, over the next decade, IPv6 deployment seems very likely, given the momentum of decisions by large buyers, large vendors, (30) and the Internet Engineering Task Force, which crafts the specifications for the protocols used on the Internet.Building and maintaining IP stacks is very difficult, even using the far simpler IPv4 protocol. The software development community has required a full 20 years to scrub similar problems due to faulty code out of their IPv4 implementations.8 IPv6 software is likely to go through a similar process as vulnerabilities are discovered and fixed. While it may not take another 20 years to get IPv6 right, it will certainly require significant effort to discern flaws in the numerous implementations of this vastly more complex protocol. The Internet and its users may be exposed to attacks for some time. IPv6 also raises other security implications. The very large address space can make it easier for systems to hide: an attacker who modulates a network address across a very large address space can hide systems more easily than within the smaller and simpler IPv4 landscape.



3.2.1 Software trends

Among the software trends likely to have lasting effect are: increases in software complexity; enhanced capabilities for search both across local systems and Internet-wide; widespread virtualization of operating systems convergence of technologies increased noise in most aspects of cyberspace increased vulnerability due to advancement of computer and network attack and exploit methodologies.

Increases in software complexity

Although underlying hardware and network speeds have increased, most new computers do not seem to their users to be significantly faster than their predecessors for very long after their introduction. This is largely due to increases in software complexity, as additional features, increased error-handling capabilities, and more complex security facilities sap the processing gains reflected in MoorEs law and in higher bandwidth. Modern software includes a proliferation of features, some important and useful to large numbers of users, and others providing utility to only a small fraction of the user base. Users demand that new programs do more than their old software, and vendors cater to this expectation. Software vendors introduce these features to entice new customers to purchase their products, as well as to inspire existing customers to continue on the treadmill of constant software upgrades. Unfortunately, some software vendors do not spend the resources necessary for thorough development, integration, and testing of these features and modifications. More complex software is more likely to have flaws, which may manifest themselves in broken features, software crashes, or security vulnerabilities. When a software flaw is discovered, especially one with major security implications, the software vendor typically releases a patcH to alleviate the condition. Microsoft, for example, releases patches once per month, each typically including between five and a dozen major fixes, often requiring upwards of 10 megabytes of new code. With such massive changes pushed to over 100 million systems, the patching process for Windows alone is a monumental worldwide undertaking on a monthly basis, involving not just Microsoft, but also hundreds of thousands of enterprise users and consumers, not all of whom test such patches carefully before installing. Moreover, multiple patches applied over time could introduce additional flaws. The constan accumulation of patches can make systems more brittle, requiring even more complexity to patch adequately without breaking functionality. Unfortunately, complexity is often the enemy of security, as subtle vulnerabilities linger in highly complex, perhaps poorly understood code. To address such vulnerabilities, security toolsâantivirus tools, antispyware software, and intrusion prevention systems are common defences for systems today. Many of these tools operate in a reactive fashion, to clean up after an infection has occurred, and most defend against specific vulnerabilities that have already been found, not against as-yet-undiscovered security flaws. Compounding the problem, these security tools themselves often have flaws, so they need patches as well. This, again, increases the overall complexity of computer systems and makes them even more brittle. Antivirus, antispyware, and other antiâmalicious code technologies use a mixture of techniques to detect such malware, analyzing protected computers on which they are installed at a granular level to police the system for infection and attacks. The need for such defence is turning into a significant security tax on the increases described by Moores law and is boosting complexity.

Enhanced search capabilities

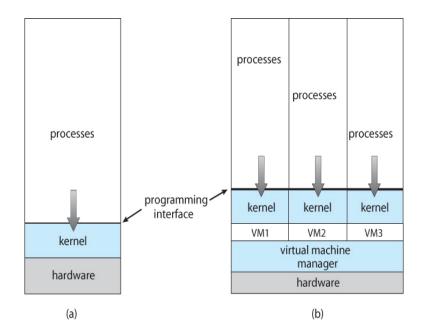
With increasingly complex software used for a greater number of applications, more and more vital data is accumulating in databases and file systems. On a local system, data are typically stored in multi-Gigabyte or even Terabyte (1,000 Gigabyte) file systems. On large servers or even networked groups of systems, databases often exceed 100 Terabytes. These data are only useful if users and applications can search for information; high-quality search functionality is therefore vital, and the data must be organized, stored, and presented in useful structures. The metadata that describe the data, tagging, and visualization technologies are thus increasingly critical. Because of their involvement with these crucial functions, Internet search engines are currently at the centre of activity in cyberspace evolution. As search engines acquire more data sources, including phone books, highly detailed satellite imagery, and maps, users are presented with more powerful search directives and operators. Such options let users hone in on specific items they seek, using a complex array of search directives instead of merely grabbing data with a specific set of search terms located in it. In addition, simple text-based searches are expanding to searches for images, sound, or videos.

With so much information on the Internet, many users need help to find what they need. Users might not even know precisely what to search for and would benefit from a ranking system of interesting or useful sources of information. To address this need, other sites on the Internet act as aggregating front-end portals that organize data from multiple data sources and process it to provide users with extra value. Sites such as digg.com and del.icio.us contain lists of popular articles and sites that are voted on by users, giving other users a guide to information in a variety of categories The need for search capabilities is not limited to the Internet. Internal network searching is increasingly important for locating useful information from an organizationâs internal servers and desktop computers.

Widespread operating system virtualization

Virtual machine environments (VMEs) such as VMware, Microsoftâs Virtual Server, and Xen let a user or administrator run one or more guest operating systems on top of a single host operating system. With such VME tools, for example, three or four instances of the Microsoft Windows operating system can run as guest systems on top of a single Linux host operating system on a single PC or server. The concepts of virtualization were pioneered in the mainframe world but are now migrating to standard PCs and even to cell phone systems. Such virtualized environments are used for clients as well as servers in a variety of commercial, government, and military organizations, and their deployment is increasing very rapidly for several reasons VMEs improve server operations by helping to cut hardware costs, simplify maintenance, and improve reliability by consolidating multiple servers onto a single hardware platform. They may lower the cost of providing user access to multiple networks having different sensitivity levels. By means of VMEs, some government and military agencies and departments may use one PC, with different guest operating systems associated with each separate network a user may need. Numerous honey pot (35) defensive technologies rely on VMEs because they can be more easily monitored and reset after a compromise occurs. Systems that are directly accessible from the Internet have a high risk of compromise; in multitiered e-commerce environments, it can be expected that the front-end system will be compromised. Increasingly, therefore, these Exposed hosts are installed on VMEs to minimize downtime, increase security, and simplify forensic procedures. Computer attackers are, accordingly, becoming very interested in detecting the presence of VMEs, both locally on a potential VME and across the network. If malicious code (such technologies as spyware or keystroke loggers) detects a VME, it might shut off some of its functionality to keep researchers from observing it and devising defences. Researchers might not notice its deeper and more insidious functionality or may have to work harder to determine what the code would do when not in the presence of a VME. Either way, the attacker buys time, and with it, additional profit. VME detection is useful to attackers who seek to avoid wasting time on honey pots. Attackers also have other motivations for discovering whether a given system is running in a VME. If, for example, an attacker could find out that a group of five systems were guest virtual machines all on a single host, launching a denial-of-service attack against the host machine would be an easier way to cause more harm to the target organization. As VMEs are deployed more widely, even perhaps to a majority of machines on the Internet, their detection may become a less significant issue, as attackers may come to assume they are always in a guest machine. However, other security implications of VMEs would come to the forefront. VME detection could become a precursor to VME escape, whereby an attacker might leak classified information from a more sensitive guest machine to a more easily compromised guest, undermining isolation and exposing sensitive data. An attacker or malicious code that detects a VME might try to move from a guest machine to the host machine or to other guests, compromising security, infecting other guest systems, or breaking into higher levels of security classification.

3.3 Vulnerabilities, Threats Risks

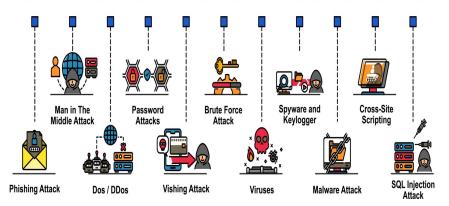


The cyberspace is challenged continually by vulnerabilities, threats and risks that have constantly spurred exploitation, conspiracy and conflicts. The increasing level of inter-dependence between physical and virtual components (technology), people and processes is relentlessly opening up unpredictable vulnerabilities, threats and risks. These span across software (viruses, worms, spyware, root kits, exploit scripts, protocol exploits, etc.), hardware (implantation of Trojans: undesired, malicious, deliberate alterations to electronic circuits) and human factor (insider or outsider threats, also from malicious or inadvertent actions or inaction in planning, design, implementation, deployment and operation). Thus, the notion of people in information systems is fundamental because systems are designed by humans, operated by humans and governed by humans; these key actions are subjective to human imperfection. The human factor, unescapably, cut across the life-cycle of providing and operating information systems infrastructure. For instance, when engineers design a system, it unavoidably often contains hardware flaws, software bugs or programming errors, meaning that since systems are products of human beings, mistakes are unavoidable. The consequence is that human error that is inevitably, persistently, can create security holes that may not be immediately perceived. There is no exploit (or threat) without vulnerability. Threats are continually evolving because of inherent vulnerability that is vary increasingly due to several factors. Simply, vulnerability is the state of visible weakness (exposure of weakness) that can possibly be exploited to carry out attacks or cause harm. Thus, a security breach is as a result of visible weakness found in a system. The unfortunate certainty, however, is that vulnerability in cyberspace infrastructure is likely to be eradicated, no matter the advances in cybersecurity controls. The dialectical relationship between threat, vulnerability and risk is that since, threat results from an exploitation of identified vulnerability in a system, risk is defined by the aftermath of the exploitation of any of such threat into a successful cyber-attack. The fact that criminality in the cyberspace is also creating innovations and opportunities within the cybersecurity industry is another paradox. It has become mice and cat race that no one is really sure who is obviously in the lead. The implication is that cybersecurity service providers are creating business opportunities from vulnerabilities. For instance, the production and sale of malware in one hand, and production and sale of anti-malware in the other hand in the past two decades, arguably, have generated multibillion dollar businesses around the globe (ITU, 2008). From the foregoing, it is evident that the interplay of cyber opportunities, negative or positive has strong elements of evolving vulnerabilities, threats and risks. What is clear in this context is that countries who aspire competitive lead in the vulnerability landscape and its exploitations can as well take undue advantage of others in the race for digital supremacy. Consequently, it can be argued that vulnerabilities, threats and risks are factors that are equally underpinning the undercurrents of the new world.

3.4 Cyberwarfare

Unlike in the last decade, cyber warfare is no longer strange or puzzling. With the emerging reality of state sponsored attacks on the cyber infrastructure of other nations, the entrenchment of the relatively new phenomenon of cyber warfare in human lexicon can hardly be contested. Cyber warfare from this perspective is an extension of the mutual web of conspiracy and sabotage between and among nations in conflict. In a cyberspace which is intrinsically challenged by uncertainties, State actors are ucnsatisfied with building defensive strategies alone but working effortlessly to build offensive capabilities that can assail their adversaries whenever desirable. Exacerbating this challenge is that no individual, organisation or government can provide an accurate profile of the threats and vulnerabilities evolving and emanating thereof. Consequently, it will appear that the raging war at cyberspace domain will be hard to win due to several factors that are too hard to predict. The factors that interplay and create the vulnerability landscape, which could be exploited by State actors against other States are inherently uncontrollable, arising, as more advancements are made in the technology arena. What has informed State actors is the same long tradition of worlds conspiracy and conflicts with taxonomy such as infiltration, sabotage, espionage, war, etc. as majority human activities shift to the new realm. As put by Ranger, (2015) after years on the defensive, governments are building their own offensive capabilities to deliver attacks It's all part of a secret, hidden arms race, where countries spend billions of dollars to create new armies and stockpiles of digital weapons.â What is key to all these exploits is the capability to latch onto the inherent vulnerabilities within the cyberspace through intensified and structured formal research and development â searching for high profile vulnerabilities, which are hard to discover. That is, the strength of State actors lie in their skills and competence in discovering high-profile zero day vulnerabilities. The US, and other superior cyber-powers have already carved a career in this area with highly-profiled Vulnerability Researchers. The first attack, allegedly, arose international awareness, was the assault on Estonia, a Baltic State, with estimated population of about 1.3 million (BBC, 2007). Estonia, with claim of being the most internet-savvy State within the European Union, highly-dependent on cyber infrastructure, was seriously hit by sustained coordinated attack against government and critical private institutions websites causing heavy disruptions. This attack was remarkably an indication of potentially State backed conspiracy that could halt companies or even paralyse a State, as Russian State was suspected to have supported the attack (Ranger, 2015). Another publicly acknowledged cyberweapon or compromise masterminded by State actors i.e. Stuxnet, yet to be fully understood by military strategists, cyber security experts, and even political decision-makers in most countries, raised world attention (Bamford, 2013). Stuxnet, the cyberweapon that attacked the Iranian nuclear facility at Natanz is now the first acknowledged cyber incident within the scale and scope of cyber warfare. The mastery of the design and how it was able to undermine all security measures by the Iranians even against their computer networks that are isolated from the Internet network by a technology called air-gap continues to baffle cyber experts globally(Langner, 2013). Bamford, (2013), alleged that it was in 2012, anonymous source, revealed to The New York Times that America and Israel were responsible for the security breach in Iranian nuclear facility. The work that cumulated to Iranian attack, apparently, was a long years of US militaryâs effort to develop offensive capabilities that is not only able to defend the US cyberspace but to equally batter its enemies Bamford, (2013). The Stuxnetcase, undoubtedly, demonstrated long period of professional and expertise development that attests to the undiscoverable nature of the weapon. There is an indication that the American National Security Agency (NSA) conceived âUS Cyber Commandâ as far as the year 2000 to build US cyber warfare effort. According to Bamford, (2013), the US fears that cyberweapons are as crucial to 21st century warfare as nuclear arms were in the 20th. The US Cyber Command force is over 14, 000 personnel with over 13 formidable cyberattack teams declared Bamford, (2013). The US sets aside 4.7 billion annually for developing cyberwarriors including high-profile expertise development, encouraging many doctoral degree studies in the various field of cyberspace (Bamford, 2013). Conversely, the aftermath of Stuxnet incident was Iranian ferocious response. It was assumed that Iran hatched its counter on Saudi Aramco, an energy company and RasGas, the Qatari natural gas facility as well as several denial-of-service attack targeted on American interest (Perlrothoct, 2012). The Stuxnet sage also prompted Iran to form its Cyber Command, in attempt to building a tough Cyber force that is capable of inflicting damage to its foes (Langner, 2013). In a similar development, China, alleged, has continuously invaded US cyberspace, increasingly, exploiting vulnerabilities in some military and government information systems and networks (Capaccio, 2012). Capaccio, (2012), argued that most of the Chinese attacks are highly customised and specialized, with a high success rate targeted to vital military installations vulnerable to industrial espionage. Conversely, China assumed to be a deliberate contender of the US in the cyberspace, is building its cyber warfare paramilitaries, especially understood to be targeting US expertise and specialisations in communications, electronic warfare and networking skills. According to the US- China Economic and Security Review Commission, Chinas cyber capabilities is a worrying concern to the US, which fears that at any given point, China persistence, combined with notable advancements in exploitation activities pose growing challenges to information systems and their users (Capaccio, 2012). Similarly, the December, 2014 attack on Sony Pictures Entertainment, alleged committed by North Korea is another level of magnitude of attack that is capable of provoking cyberwarfare. The perpetuators of the Sony assault revealed embarrassing documents stolen from their exploits - private and personal sensitive information of employees of Sony amongst other critical data were compromised. The Sony attack raged public uproar in the US and US government was perturbed by the incident. North Korea, undoubtedly, is another strong contender and aggressor in the cyberspace with tracks of several coordinated attacks on South Korean interest. It has continued to assemble sophisticated cyber army for its offensive and defensive strategies. The UK, is not left in the cold, according to its Defence Secretary, Philip Hammond, we will build in Britain a cyber-strike capability so we can strike back in cyberspace against enemies who attack us, putting cyber alongside land, sea, air and space as a mainstream military activity" (Ranger, 2014). Debatably, these few examples and many others not highlighted here, are earlier warning that cyber conspiracy and conflicts capable of provoking a full scale conventional war or cyberwar or combination of the two, is no longer uncertain, however, the uncertainty, is when, and those who will be drawn to the cyber-battle fields. We argue that the widening global divide induced by the cyber revolution is yet to be recognised by most of the developing nations encumbered by several domestic problems and cultural issues. These local issues, unavoidably, have continued to influence their poor perception of emerging trends. With the growing scale of conspiracy and conflicts, it is becoming increasingly critical that every nation State must strive to develop the capacity just as in the physical realm, to respond proportionately in the event of cyber conflict. This strengthens our argument, the need that part of the State requirement will be to develop the capability to deter the capacity of other States from conducting attacks against her interests

CYBER SECURITY ATTACKS



4 CONCLUSION

Cyberspace is redefining a new world characterised by the ability of a State to compete advantageously with reasonable capacity and capability to excel in it. Countries are striving to have strong productive capacities in cyber products and services, especially in cybersecurity, which is a vital component in both defence and offensive strategies. The real front-runners are still the developed nations, and the differentiator in this case remains the informed leadership issue. Our conclusion is that leaders of developed nations have identified the criticality of the new world and are in the forefront of its advancement in all directions. These leaders have gained insight of the nuances of cyberspace and are convinced, so they have taken proactive steps to protect the open cyberspace, defend it and bourgeon on it equally as they have with the physical world. For instance, the US, Britain, European countries, Russian, China, etc. through executive orders have extensive in-road and significant influence already on the cyberspace. They have shown leadership on the cyberspace by their actions â multiple strategies and initiatives in different facet of cyberspace domain that is setting the altitude for public and private sectors evolvement. In contrast, absence of political maturity, vague understanding of the new domain, and crowded domestic issues are responsible for slow adoption of strategies to harness the immense potentials of the cyberspace by developing nations. Sadly, as industrial revolution demarcated the world, so is the cyberspace fast bifurcating our global space

5 REFERENCES

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