Anatomy of a worm

A **worm** exploits a security flaw (often of a network service) to infect the machine and replicates itself through the network

➡ Very fast infection (does not need the user to be activated)

➡ Has a payload as well (more or less harmful)

Factors

- The wide adoption of internet

- The global network is a good medium for virus pandemics

- The multiplication of internet applications and services

- Fast publication of program vulnerabilities

- Slow release of corrective patches

- Slower adoption of these patches (not automatic)