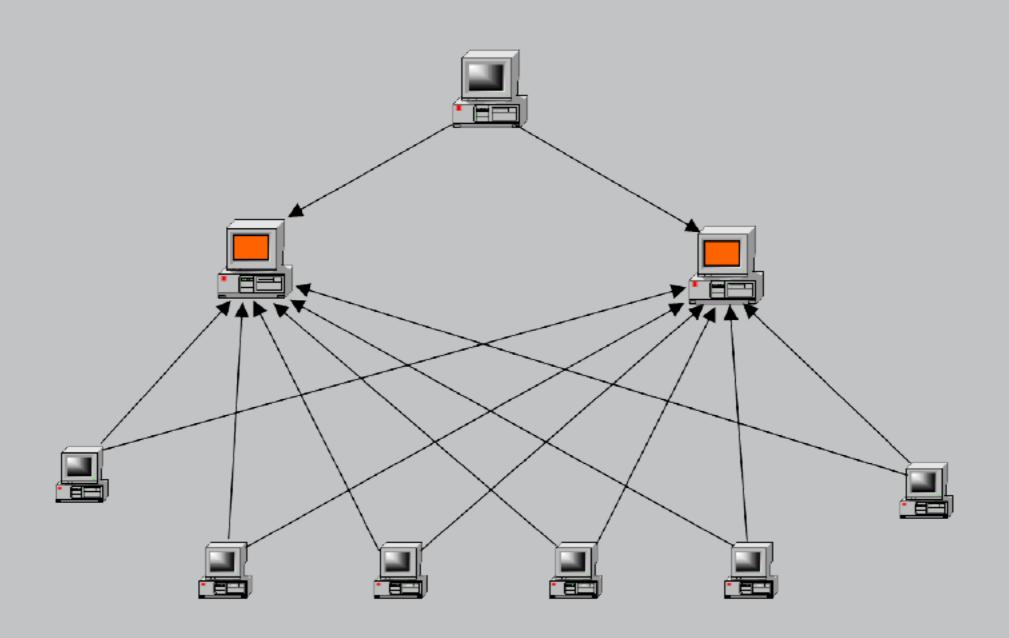
SECURITY (COMP0141): BOTNETS



BOTNETS



BOTNET TOPOLOGY

botmaster in bulletproof C&C hosting facility victims bot bot bot

BOTNET ORGANISATION

botmaster communication takes place via: -IRC (easy to infiltrate) -proprietary channels (easy to blacklist) C&C bot bot

HONEYPOTS







A honeypot is designed to be highly attractive to an attacker

- unlocked car with keys in the ignition
- computer with unpatched OS, old browser version, etc.

Operated to find out more information about them (IP address, location, etc.) or provide enough evidence to report

BOTNET ORGANISATION

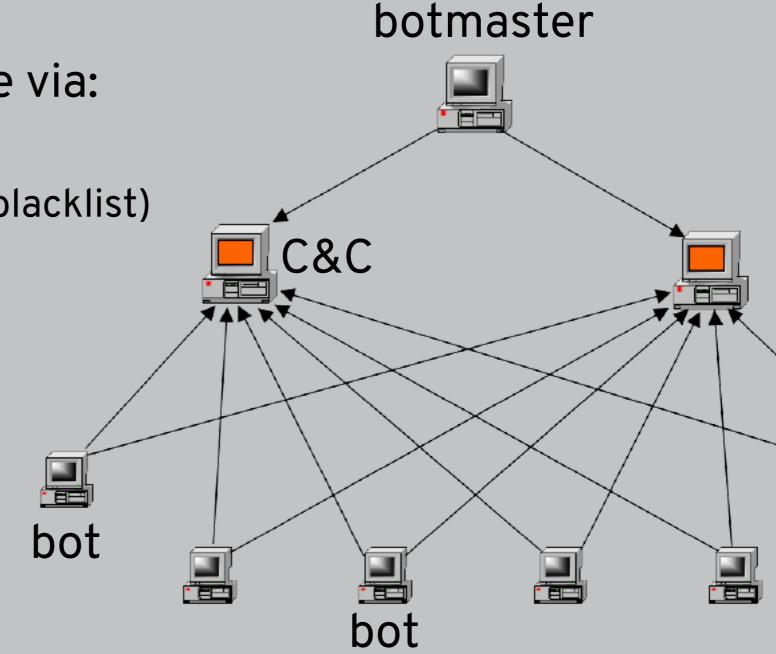
communication takes place via:

-IRC (easy to infiltrate)

-proprietary channels (easy to blacklist)

structure uses:

- -multiple tiers (expensive)
- -p2p (easy to infiltrate)
- -fast flux/domain flux (hard!)



EXAMPLES

Grum

- -shut down in 2012
- -500-900K infected

Cutwail

- -shut down in 2010
- -1.5-2M infected

ZeroAccess

- -shut down in 2013
- -2M infected

Storm

- -peak in 2007
- -1-50M infected

BUSINESS MODEL

q: but how do booter services work? how to do it myself?

a: use a **botnet**.

q: what is the monetary point of creating a botnet?

a: DDoS as a service, click fraud, spam.

PAY PER CLICK

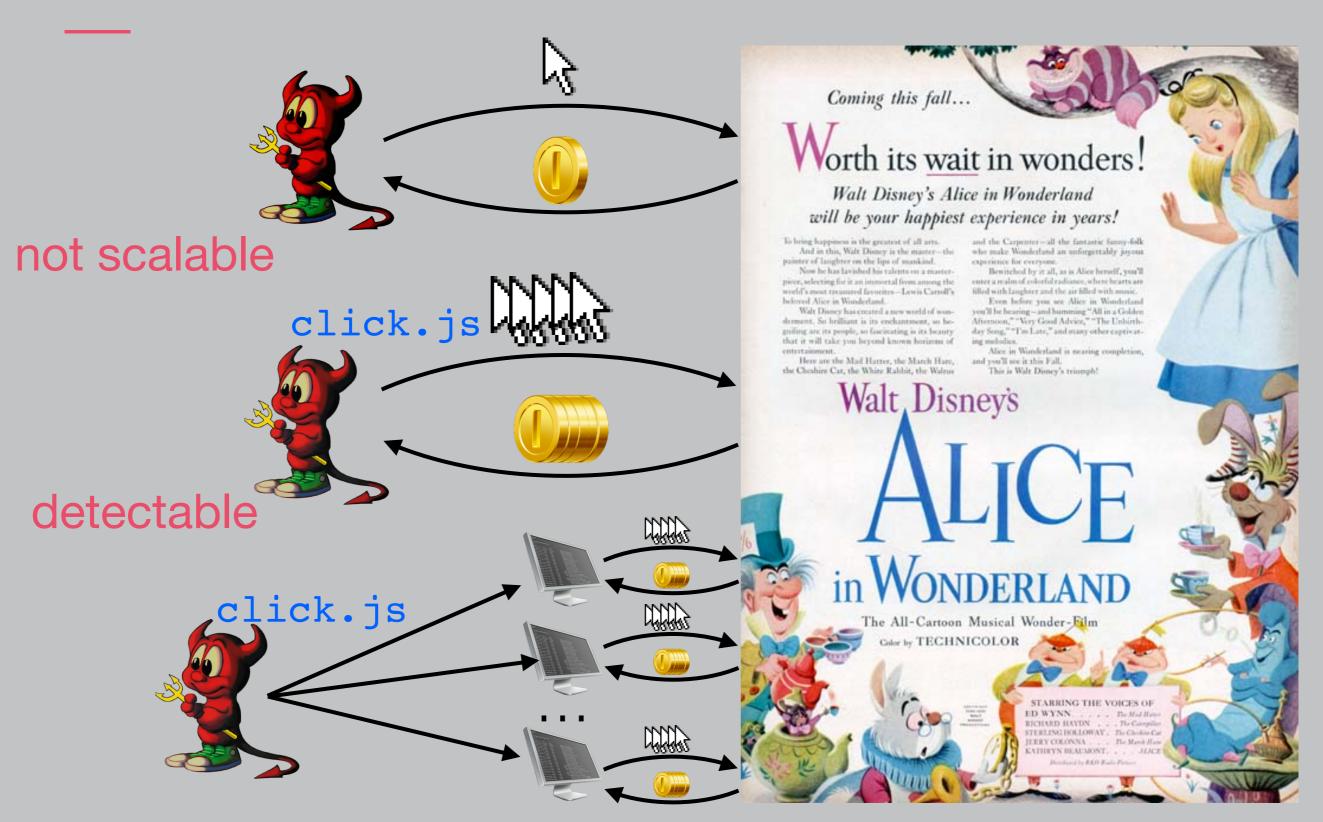




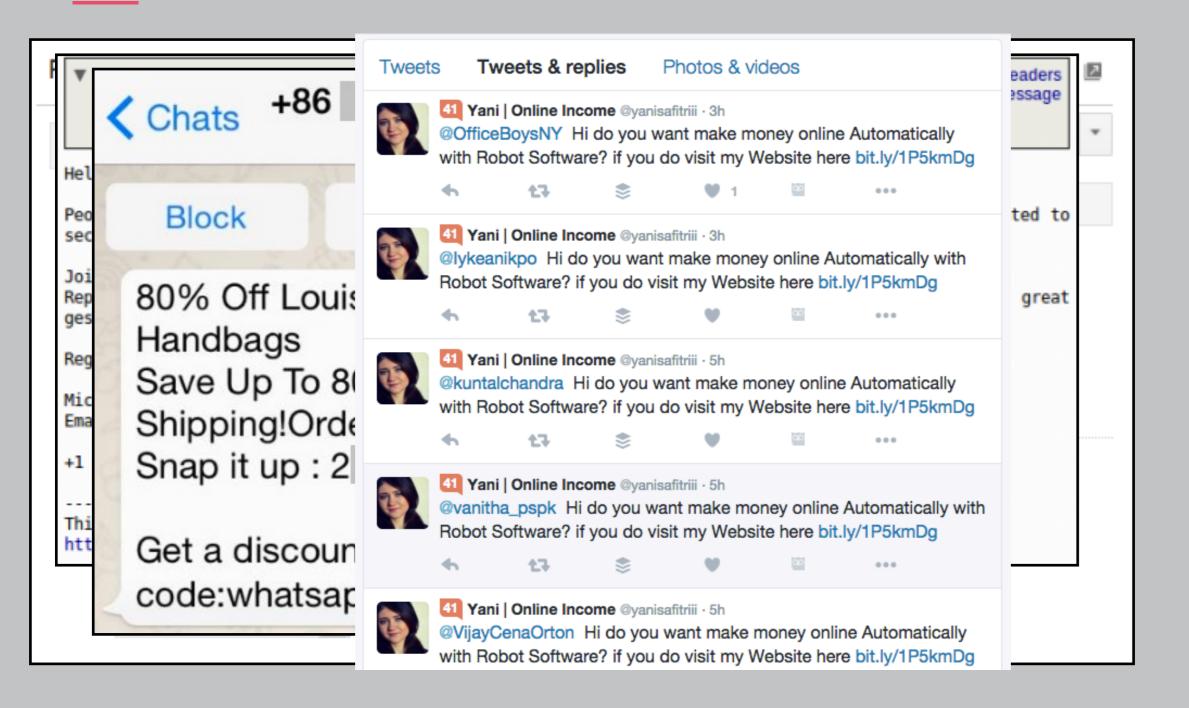
Pay-per-click (PPC) advertising means advertiser (Alice) pays publisher every time the ad is clicked



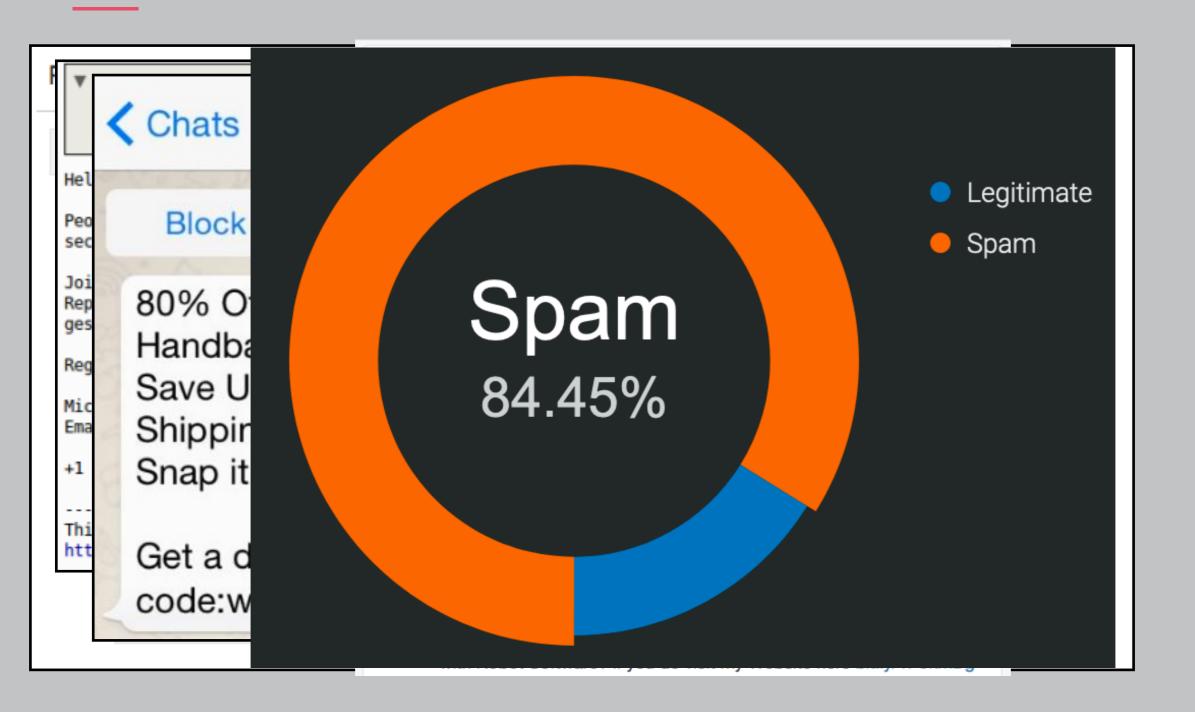
CLICK FRAUD



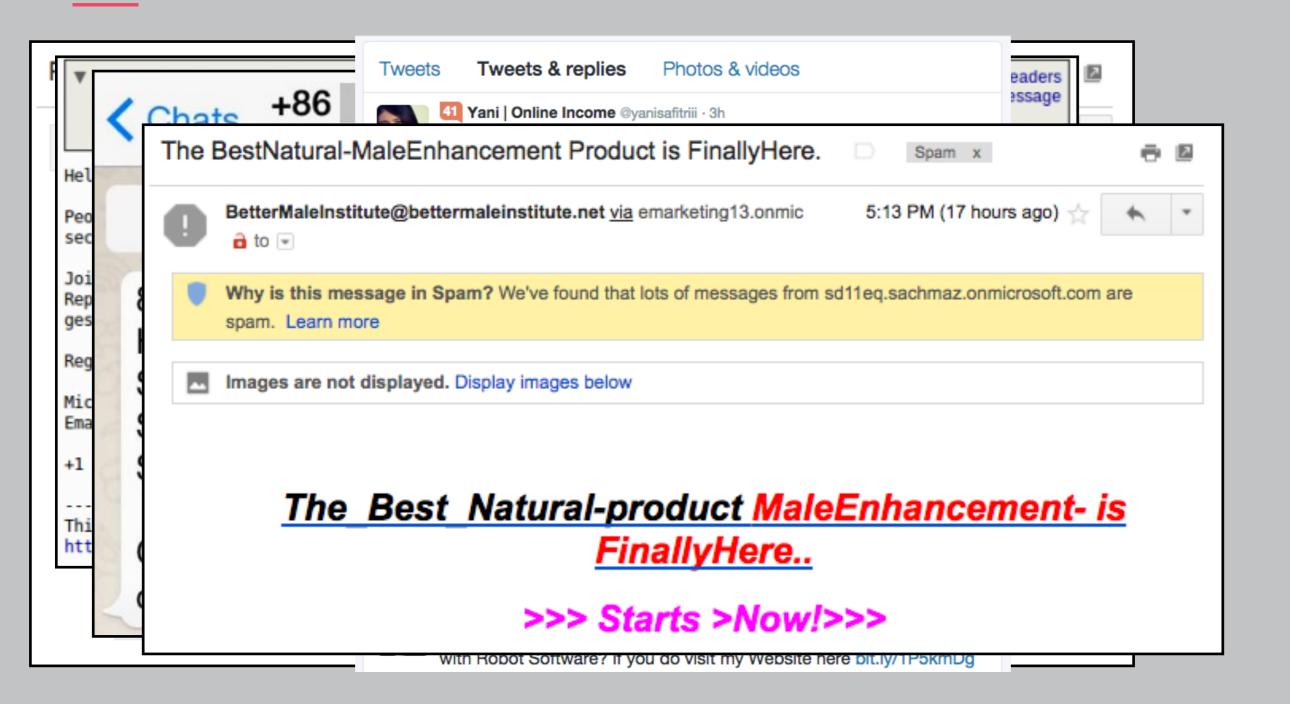
SPAM



SPAM



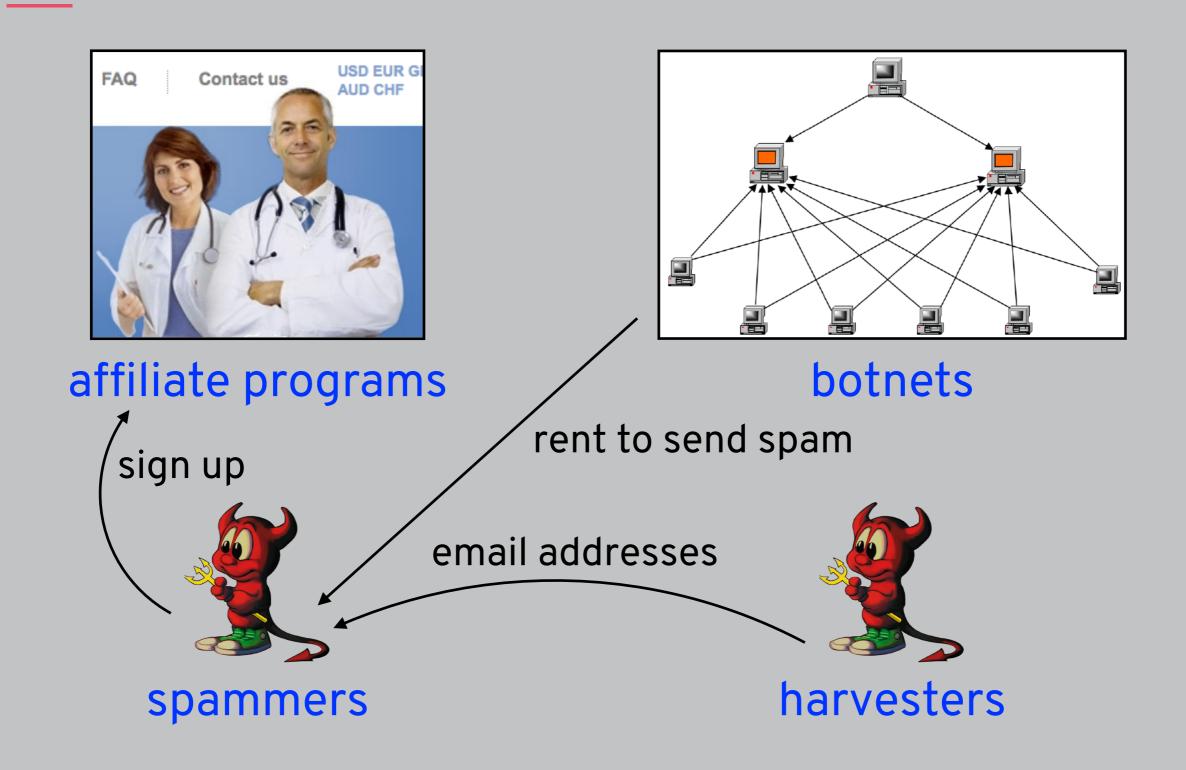
SPAM



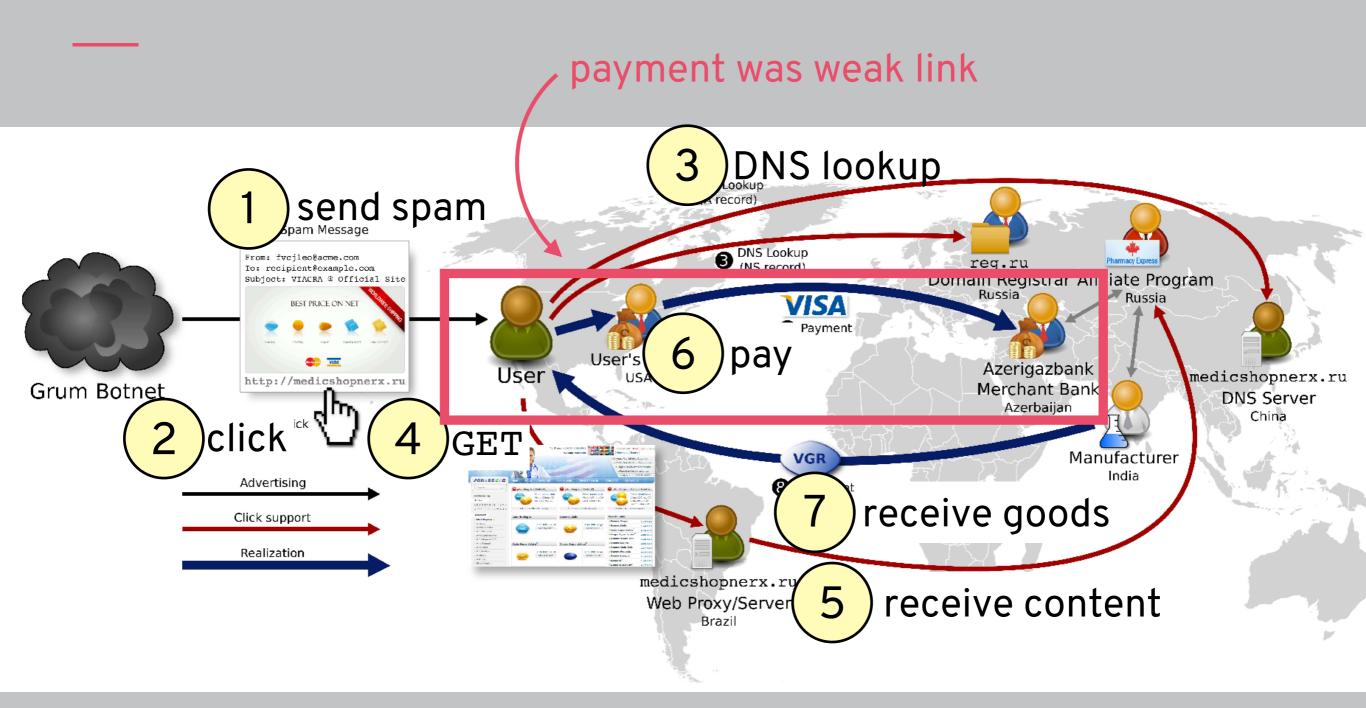
AFFILIATE PROGRAMS



SPAM ECOSYSTEM



SPAM ECOSYSTEM



(from "Click Trajectories" by Levchenko et al.)

EXAMPLES

Grum

- -shut down in 2012
- -500-900K infected
- -26% of spam in 2010 (40B/day)

ZeroAccess

- -shut down in 2013
- -2M infected
- -click fraud/Bitcoin mining

Cutwail

- -shut down in 2010
- -1.5-2M infected
- -46% of spam in 2009 (74B/day)

Storm

- -peak in 2007
- -1-50M infected
- -20% of spam in 2008

WHERE DO BOTNETS COME FROM?

q: but how do booter services work? how to do it myself?

a: use a **botnet**.

q: what is the monetary point of creating a botnet?

a: DDoS as a service, click fraud, spam.

q: but how do I create a botnet in the first place?

a: infect computers with **malware**.