



# Hands-On Ethical Hacking and Network Defense

*Chapter 3*  
*Network and Computer Attacks*

Last modified 2-3-18

# Objectives

- Describe the different types of malicious software
- Describe methods of protecting against malware attacks
- Describe the types of network attacks
- Identify physical security attacks and vulnerabilities

# Malicious Software (Malware)

Network attacks prevent a business from operating

Malicious software (Malware) includes

- Virus
- Worms
- Trojan horses

Goals

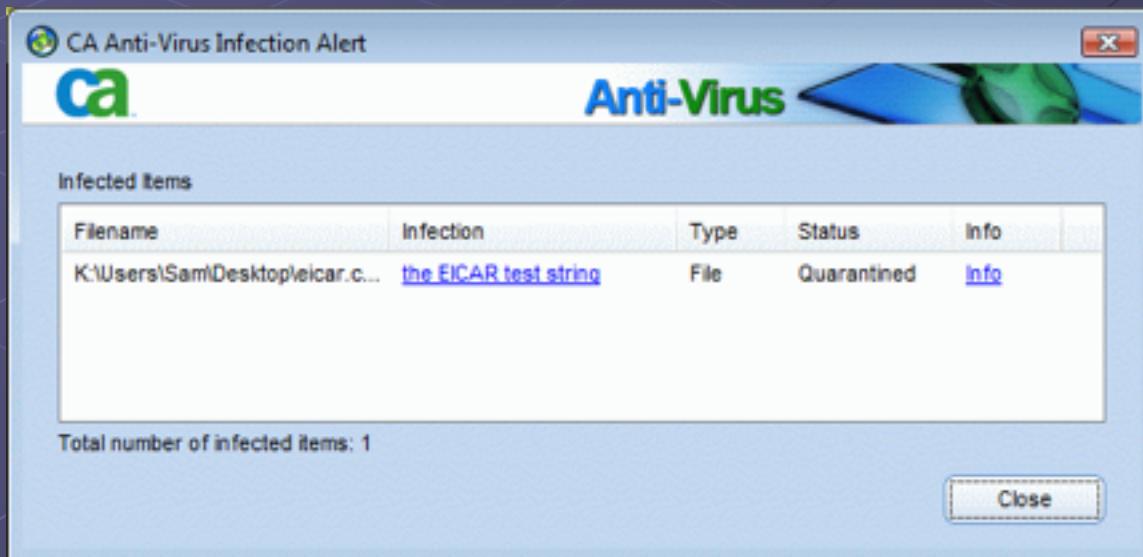
- Destroy data
- Corrupt data
- Shutdown a network or system

# Viruses

- Virus attaches itself to an executable file
- Can replicate itself through an executable program
  - Needs a host program to replicate
- No foolproof method of preventing them

# Antivirus Software

- Detects and removes viruses
- Detection based on virus signatures
- Must update signature database periodically
- Use automatic update feature



# Common Viruses

| Virus       | Description  |
|-------------|--|
| Gumblar     | First detected in March 2009, it spread by mass hacking of hundreds of thousands of Web sites, which then exploited visiting browsers via Adobe PDF and Flash vulnerabilities. The malware steals FTP credentials that are used to further compromise Web sites the victim maintains. It also hijacks Google searches and blocks access to antivirus update sites to prevent removal. Recent variations install a backdoor that attempts to connect to a botnet. |
| Luckysploit | It's actually the attack side of a sophisticated cybercrime toolkit that spreads when Web surfers visit a hacked Web site hosting the malware. It uses obfuscated JavaScript code and asymmetric key encryption to prevent detection. The JavaScript code also targets victims based on recent vulnerabilities in OSs, applications, browser plug-ins, and so on.  |
| Zlob        | Purported to be the work of the Russian Business Network, Zlob has dozens of variants, some of which spread by masquerading as a codec needed to view an enticing video. Several variants are associated with "scareware," fake antivirus downloads that change home router settings to redirect victims to more malicious sites.  |
| Gpcode      | This "ransomware" virus detected in 2008 isn't widespread but is unique because it uses practically unbreakable 1024-bit asymmetric key encryption to hide a user's documents on the computer and hold them for ransom until the victim pays to get the encryption key.  |

# Base 64 Encoding

- Used to evade anti-spam tools, and to obscure passwords

- Encodes six bits at a time (0 – 63) with a single ASCII character

- A - Z: 0 – 25
- a – z: 26 – 51
- 1 – 9: 52 – 61
- + and -: 62 and 63

- See links Ch 3a, 3b

# Base64 Example

|   |                                   |                                   |                                  |                                  |                                   |                                   |                                   |                                  |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Input String  | O                                 | R                                 | A                                | C                                | L                                 | E                                 | .                                 | .                                |
| Binary Representation   | $01001111_2$                      | $01010010_2$                      | $01000001_2$                     | $01000011_2$                     | $01001100_2$                      | $01000101_2$                      | .                                 | .                                |
| After regrouping into 6-bit groups.<br><i>[Binary and decimal equivalents are shown.]</i> | $010011_2$<br>[19 <sub>10</sub> ] | $110101_2$<br>[53 <sub>10</sub> ] | $001001_2$<br>[9 <sub>10</sub> ] | $000001_2$<br>[1 <sub>10</sub> ] | $010000_2$<br>[16 <sub>10</sub> ] | $110100_2$<br>[52 <sub>10</sub> ] | $110001_2$<br>[49 <sub>10</sub> ] | $000101_2$<br>[5 <sub>10</sub> ] |
| After mapping the above eight 8-bit bytes using Table 1                                   | T                                 | 1                                 | J                                | B                                | Q                                 | 0                                 | x                                 | F                                |

Base64 encoded string : **T1JBQ0xF**



ORACLE -> T1JBQ0xF

- Link Ch 3r

# Viruses (continued)



Commercial base 64 decoders



Shell

- Executable piece of programming code
- Should not appear in an e-mail attachment

# Macro Viruses



Virus encoded as a macro



Macro

- Lists of commands
- Can be used in destructive ways



Example: Melissa

- Appeared in 1999
- It is very simple – see link Ch 3c for source code

# Writing Viruses

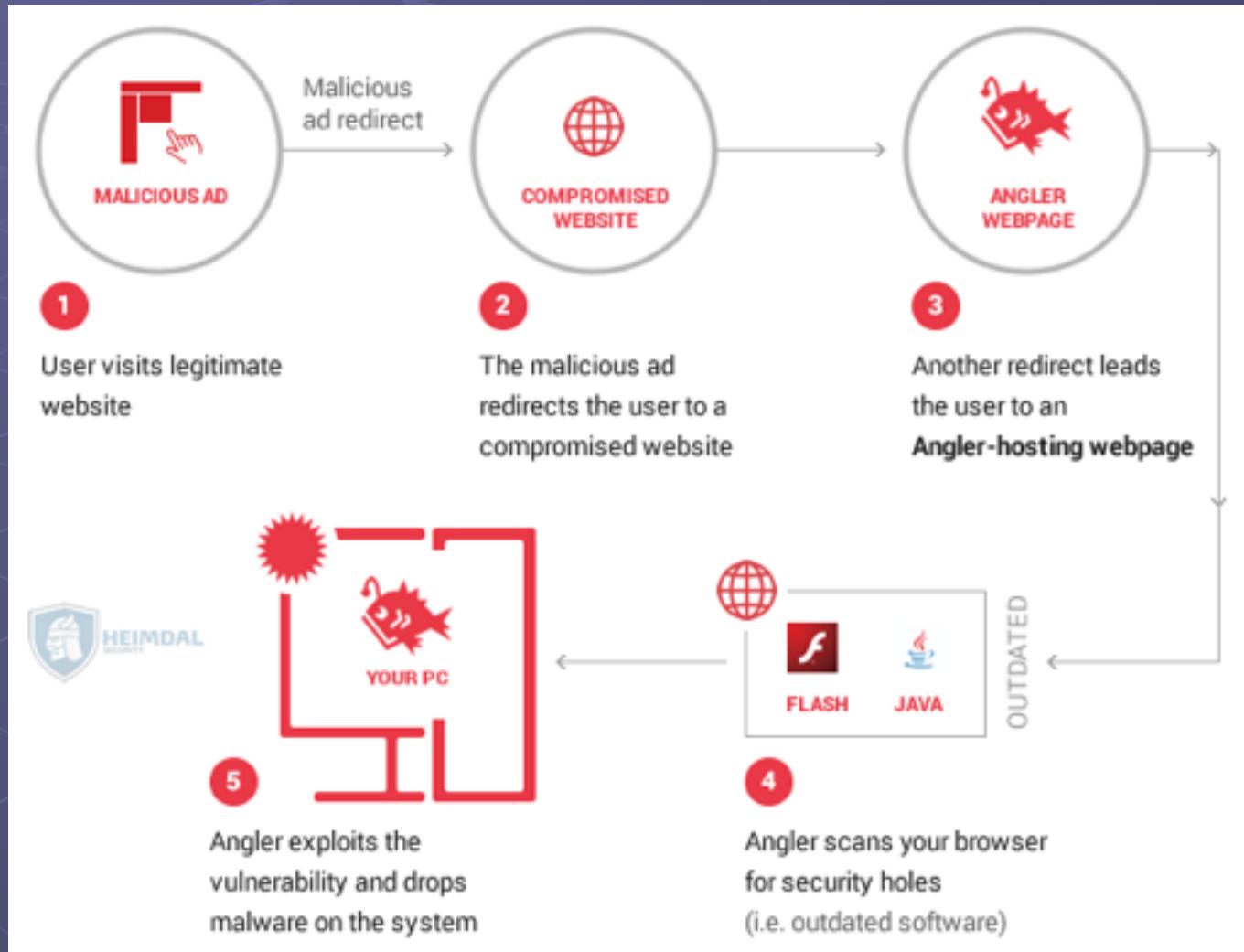
Even nonprogrammers  
can create macro viruses

- Instructions posted on  
Web sites
- Virus creation kits available for download (see  
link Ch 3d)

Security professionals can learn from  
thinking like attackers

- But don't create and release a virus! People  
get long prison terms for that.

# Angler Exploit Kit





SUBSCRIPTIONS



SCRIPT ERROR —

# Threat or menace? “Autosploit” tool sparks fears of empowered “script kiddies”

400 lines of Python code + Shodan + Metasploit equals a whole heap of hand-wringing.

SEAN GALLAGHER • 2/1/2018, 4:45 AM

Link Ch 3za, 3zb

# Worms

## Worm

- Replicates and propagates without a host, often through email

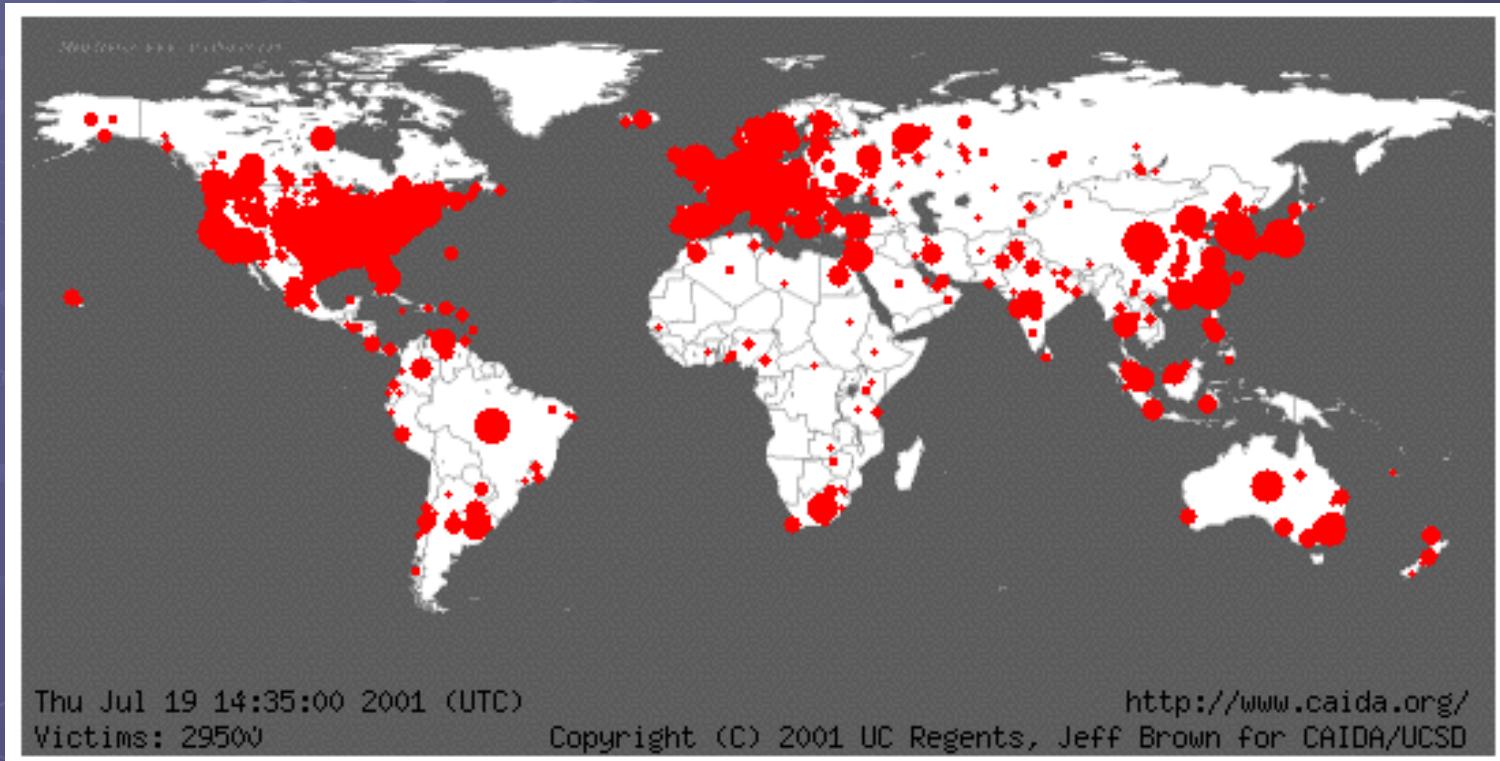
## Infamous examples

- Code Red
- Nimda

## Can infect every computer in the world in a short time

- At least in theory

# Spread of Code Red Worm



See link Ch 3u

# ATM Machine Worms

- Cyberattacks against ATM machines
- Slammer and Nachi worms
- Trend produces antivirus for ATM machines
  - See links Ch 3g, 3h, 3i
- Nachi was written to clean up damage caused by the Blaster worm, but it got out of control
  - See link Ch 3j
- Diebold was criticized for using Windows for ATM machines, which they also use on voting machines

# Important Worms

| Worm      | Description  |
|-----------|--|
| Storm     | Detected in January 2007, it's spread by automatically generated e-mail messages. It's estimated that this botnet Trojan program and its variants infected millions of systems.  |
| Mytob     | Detected in 2005, it's a hybrid worm with backdoor capabilities spread by mass e-mailing and exploiting Windows vulnerabilities.   |
| Waledac   | This e-mail worm harvests and forwards passwords and spreads itself in an e-mail with an attachment called eCard.exe. It has many variants that can be controlled remotely. A recent variant uses a geographic IP address lookup to customize the e-mail message so that it looks like a Reuters news story about a dirty bomb that exploded in a city near the victim.  |
| Conficker | Detected in late 2008, this botnet worm and its variants propagated through the Internet by using a Microsoft network service vulnerability. It updates itself dynamically but can be detected remotely with a standard port scanner, such as Nmap, and a special Conficker signature plug-in.   |
| Mod_ssl   | Detected in 2002, this worm affects Linux systems running Apache OpenSSL. It scans for vulnerable systems on TCP port 80 and attempts to deliver the exploit code through TCP port 443. A system infected with this worm begins spreading it to other systems on a network. See VU#102795 and CA-2002-23 at <a href="http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls">www.kb.cert.org/vuls</a> for more information; this site cross-references vulnerabilities listed at <a href="http://www.cve.mitre.org">www.cve.mitre.org</a> . |
| Slammer   | Detected in 2003, this worm was purported to have shut down more than 13,000 ATMs of one of the largest banks in America by infecting database servers located on the same network.  |

# Trojan Programs

- Insidious attack against networks

- Disguise themselves as useful programs

- Hide malicious content in program

- Backdoors

- Rootkits

- Allow attackers remote access

# Firewalls

- Identify traffic on uncommon ports
- Can block this type of attack, if your firewall filters outgoing traffic
  - Windows Firewall in XP SP2, Vista, and Win 7 does not filter outgoing traffic by default
- Trojan programs can use known ports to get through firewalls
  - HTTP (TCP 80) or DNS (UDP 53)

**Table 3-3** Trojan programs and ports

| Trojan Program  | TCP Ports Used                         |
|---|--|
| W32.Korgo.A   | 13, 2041, and 3067                     |
| Backdoor.Rtkit.B  | 445                                    |
| Backdoor.Systsec, Backdoor.Zincite.A  | 1034                                   |
| W32.Beagle.Y@mm   | 1234                                   |
| Trojan.Tilser   | 6187                                   |
| Backdoor.Hacarmy.C, Backdoor.Kaitex,<br>Backdoor.Clt, Backdoor.IRC.Flood.E,<br>Backdoor.Spigot.C, Backdoor.IrcContact,<br>Backdoor.DarkFtp, Backdoor.Slackbot.B | 6667                                   |
| Backdoor.Danton   | 6969                                   |
| Backdoor.Nemog.C  | 4661, 4242, 8080, 4646, 6565, and 3306 |

# Windows DLL Hijacking Vulnerability

- DLL files are loaded from the incorrect directory

- Affects over 200 applications on every version of Windows

- No good patch yet  
(8-31-2010)
  - Link Ch 3s, 3t, 3w

The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole". The terminal output is as follows:

```
[*] Using URL: http://0.0.0.0:80/
[*] Local IPs https://172.16.30.16:80/
[*] Server started.
[*] exploit(webdav dll hijacker) > [*] 172.16.30.229:49259 GET => REDIRECT (/documents/)
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 OPTIONS /documents
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND /documents
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 301 (/documents)
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND /documents/
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 207 Directory (/documents/)
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 207 Top-Level Directory
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND /documents
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 301 (/documents)
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND /documents/
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 207 Directory (/documents/)
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 207 Top-Level Directory
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND /documents
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 301 (/documents)
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND /documents/
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 207 Directory (/documents/)
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 207 Top-Level Directory
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND /documents
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 301 (/documents)
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND /documents/
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 207 Directory (/documents/)
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 207 Top-Level Directory
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND /documents/desktop.ini
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 404 (/documents/desktop.ini)
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND /documents
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 301 (/documents)
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND /documents/
[*] 172.16.30.229:49262 PROPFIND => 207 Directory (/documents/)
```

The terminal window has a title bar "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole" and a status bar "root@bt: ~ - Shell - Konsole". A callout bubble points to the terminal output with the text: "The malicious DLL gets loaded and executed on the victim machine...".

# Spyware

- Sends information from the infected computer to the attacker
  - Confidential financial data
  - Passwords
  - PINs
  - Any other stored data
- Can register each keystroke entered (keylogger)
- Prevalent technology
- Educate users about spyware

# Deceptive Dialog Box



**Figure 3-2** A spyware initiation program

# Adware

- Similar to spyware

- Can be installed without the user being aware

- Sometimes displays a banner

- Main goal

- Determine user's online purchasing habits
  - Tailored advertisement

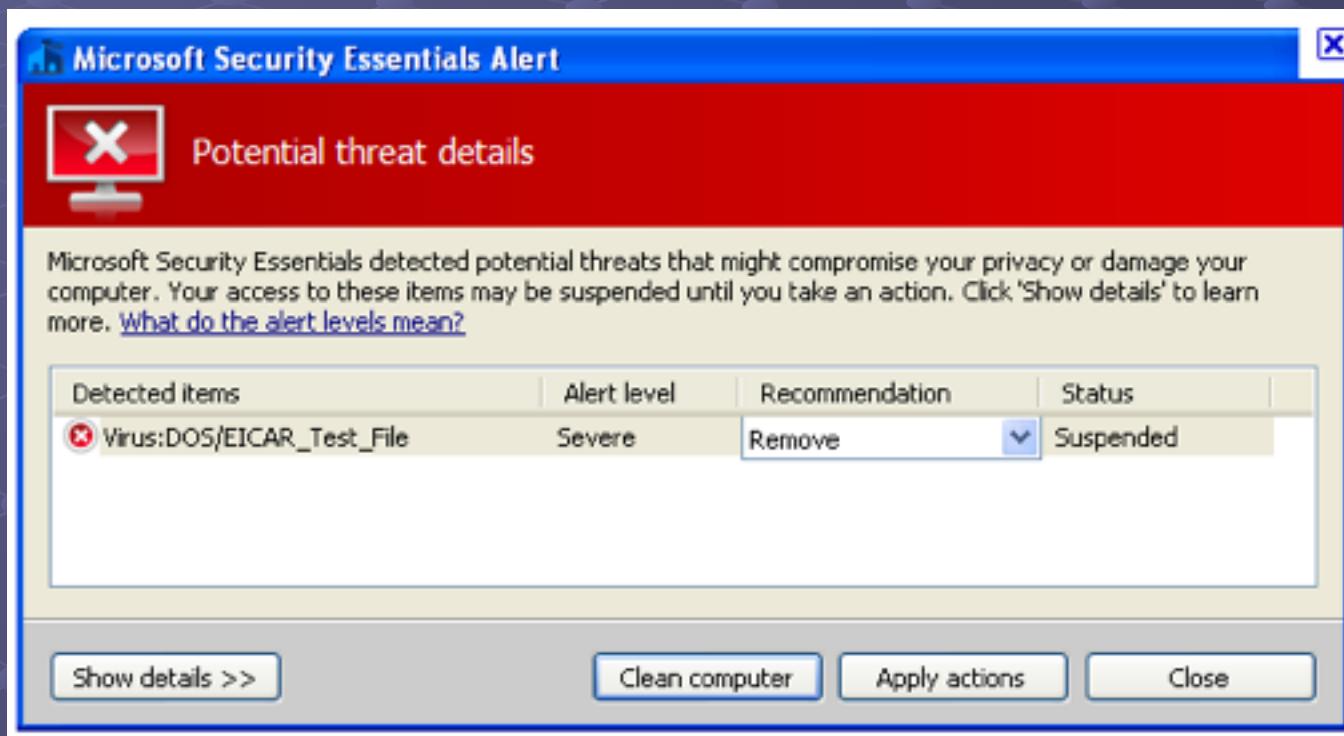
- Main problem

- Slows down computers

# Protecting Against Malware Attacks

- Difficult task
- New viruses, worms, Trojan programs appear daily
- Antivirus programs offer a lot of protection
- Educate your users about these types of attacks

# Virus Alert





# Kahoot!

Binary

Kahoot!

# Educating Your Users

## Structural training

- Includes all employees and management
- E-mail monthly security updates

## Update virus signature database automatically

# Educating Your Users

## SpyBot and Ad-Aware

- Help protect against spyware and adware
- Windows Defender is excellent too

## Firewalls

- Hardware (enterprise solution)
- Software (personal solution)
- Can be combined

## Intrusion Detection System (IDS)

- Monitors your network 24/7

# FUD

## Fear, Uncertainty and Doubt

- Avoid scaring users into complying with security measures
- Sometimes used by unethical security testers
- Against the OSSTMM's Rules of Engagement

## Promote awareness rather than instilling fear

- Users should be aware of potential threats
- Build on users' knowledge

advertisement | your ad here



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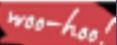
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## Viruses stole City College of S.F. data for years

Nanette Asimov, Chronicle Staff Writer

Friday, January 13, 2012

(page 1 of 2)  SINGLE PAGE



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Liz Hafalia / The Chronicle  
Computer viruses discovered in San Francisco City College servers have been stealing personal information for years.

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Personal banking information and other data from perhaps tens of thousands of students, faculty and administrators at City College of San Francisco have been stolen in what is being called "an infestation" of computer viruses with origins in criminal networks in Russia, China and other countries, The Chronicle has learned.



Link Ch 3v

# Intruder Attacks on Networks and Computers

## Attack

- Any attempt by an unauthorized person to access or use network resources

## Network security

- Security of computers and other devices in a network

## Computer security

- Securing a standalone computer--not part of a network infrastructure

## Computer crime

- Fastest growing type of crime worldwide

# Denial-of-Service Attacks



## Denial-of-Service (DoS) attack

- Prevents legitimate users from accessing network resources
- Some forms do not involve computers, like feeding a paper loop through a fax machine



## DoS attacks do not attempt to access information

- Cripple the network
- Make it vulnerable to other type of attacks

# Testing for DoS Vulnerabilities



- Performing an attack yourself is not wise
  - You only need to prove that an attack could be carried out

# Distributed Denial-of-Service Attacks

- Attack on a host from multiple servers or workstations
- Network could be flooded with billions of requests
  - Loss of bandwidth
  - Degradation or loss of speed
- Often participants are not aware they are part of the attack
  - They are remote-controlled "zombies"

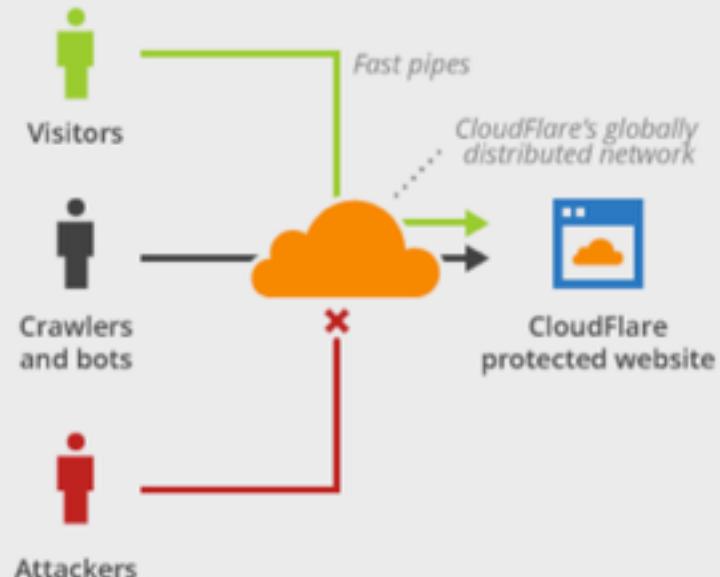
# CloudFlare

Stops DDoS attacks for free

## Without CloudFlare



## With CloudFlare



# Buffer Overflow Attacks

## Vulnerability in poorly written code

- Code does not check predefined size of input field

## Goal

- Fill overflow buffer with executable code
- OS executes this code
- Can elevate attacker's permission to Administrator or even Kernel

## Programmers need special training to write secure code

| Buffer overflow                 | Description  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Solaris X Window Font Service   | This buffer overflow affects Sun Microsystems Solaris 2.5.1, 2.6, 7, 8, and 9 and Solaris X Window Font Service systems. It allows attackers to run arbitrary code in memory. See VU#312313 ( <a href="http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls">www.kb.cert.org/vuls</a> ) for more information.   |
| Windows Server                  | Microsoft Security Bulletin MS08-067 ( <a href="http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/Bulletin/MS08-067.mspx">www.microsoft.com/technet/security/Bulletin/MS08-067.mspx</a> ) discusses this buffer overflow vulnerability, which makes it possible for attackers to run arbitrary code placed in memory. This vulnerability allowed the Conficker worm to spread. |
| Remote Sendmail                 | This buffer overflow vulnerability affects all versions of Sendmail Pro and some versions of Sendmail Switch. The vulnerability allows attackers to gain root privileges on the attacked system. See VU#398025 for more details.   |
| Windows Messenger Service       | The Windows Messenger Service has a buffer overflow vulnerability that enables the attacker to run arbitrary code and gain privileges to the attacked system.  |
| Windows Help and Support Center | Contains buffer overflow in code used to handle Human Communications Protocol (HCP). A buffer overflow vulnerability in the Help and Support Center function affects Windows XP and Windows Server 2003. The vulnerability allows attackers to create a URL that could run arbitrary code at the local computer security level when users enter that URL.              |
| Sendmail                        | All systems running Sendmail versions before 8.12.10, including UNIX and Linux systems, are vulnerable to a buffer overflow attack that enables attackers to possibly elevate privileges to that of the root user.   |
| Microsoft RPCSS Service         | There are two buffer overflow vulnerabilities in the RPCSS Service, which handles DCOM messages. This service is enabled by default on many versions of Windows, but the vulnerability affects only Windows 2000 systems. For more information, see VU#483492 and VU#254236.   |
| Internet Explorer               | A total of five vulnerabilities affect Microsoft systems running Internet Explorer 5.01, 5.50, and 6.01. For more information, see Microsoft Security Bulletin MS03-032.   |

# Ping of Death Attacks

- Type of DoS attack

- Not as common as during the late 1990s

- How it works

- Attacker creates a large ICMP packet
  - More than 65,535 bytes
- Large packet is fragmented at source network
- Destination network reassembles large packet
- Destination point cannot handle oversize packet and crashes
- Modern systems are protected from this (Link Ch 3n)

AUGUST 13, 2013

# Microsoft Patch Tuesday: The Ping of Death returns, IPv6-style

This month's round of Microsoft patches address must-fix vulnerabilities in Internet Explorer and Microsoft Mail

By Joab Jackson | IDG News Service

 Link Ch3x

# Ping Fragmentation Example

Sat Jan 31, 10:07 AM

File Edit View Go Capture Analyze Statistics Telephony Tools Internals Help

Filter: Expression... Clear Apply Save

| No. | Time        | Source          | Destination     | Protocol | Length | Info  |
|-----|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|--------|---|
| 120 | 7.459406000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=44)       |
| 121 | 7.459487000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=59)       |
| 122 | 7.459543000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=74)       |
| 123 | 7.459597000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=88)       |
| 124 | 7.459651000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=103)      |
| 125 | 7.459705000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=118)      |
| 126 | 7.459759000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=133)      |
| 127 | 7.459813000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=148)      |
| 128 | 7.459867000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=163)      |
| 129 | 7.459920000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=178)      |
| 130 | 7.459973000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=193)      |
| 131 | 7.460027000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=208)      |
| 132 | 7.462021000 | 192.168.119.2   | 192.168.119.189 | ICMP     | 528    | Destination unreachable (Fragmentation needed)      |
| 133 | 8.461505000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | IPv4     | 1514   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=ICMP 1, off=0, ttl=1) |
| 134 | 8.461629000 | 192.168.119.189 | 8.8.8.8         | TCPv4    | 1414   | Fragmented IP protocol (proto=TCP 1, off=145)       |

Frame 147: 1514 bytes on wire (12112 bits), 1514 bytes captured (12112 bits) on interface 0

Ethernet II, Src: Vmware\_69:7a:36 (00:0c:29:69:7a:36), Dst: Vmware\_e3:22:f1 (00:50:56:e3:22:f1)

Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.119.189 (192.168.119.189), Dst: 8.8.8.8 (8.8.8.8)

Data (1480 bytes)

Data: e8e9aebececedeefeff0f1f2f3f4f5f6f7f8f9fafbfccfdfeff...

[Length: 1480]

root@kali: ~

File Edit View Search Terminal Help

135 packets transmitted, 0 received, +134 errors

root@kali: ~# ping -s 60000 8.8.8.8

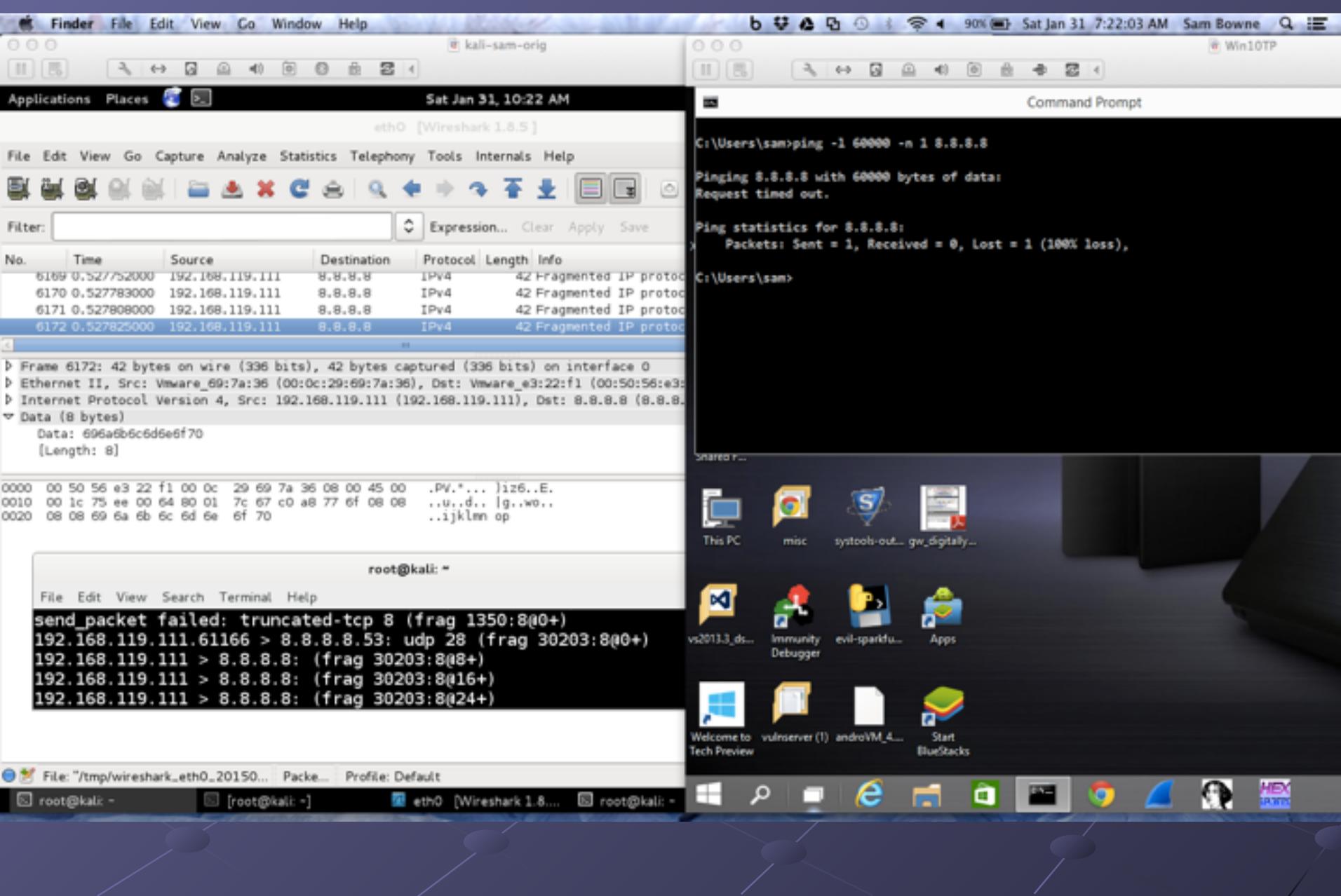
Frame (frame), 1514 bytes

Packe... Profile: Default

root@kali: ~ [root@kali: ~] eth0 [Wireshark 1.8....]

# Fragrouter Demo

- Kali Linux
  - fragrouter –F 1
- Another VM on same network, set default route to Kali's IP address
- All network traffic will be fragmented at layer 3 into 8-byte packets
- Often bypasses IDS



# Session Hijacking

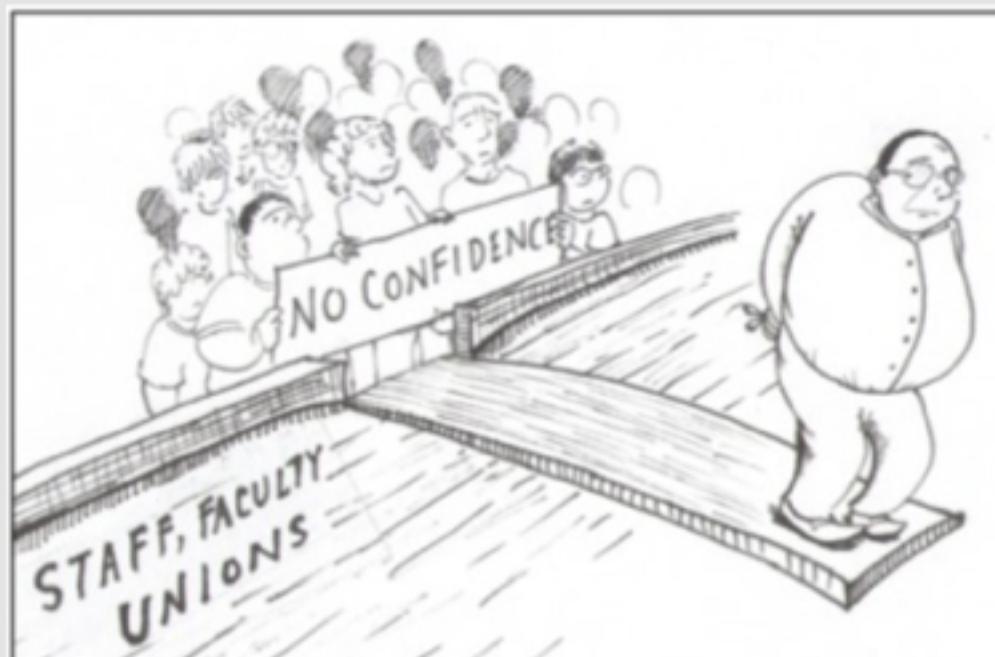
- Enables attacker to interrupt a TCP session
- Taking over another user's session

# Addressing Physical Security

- Protecting a network also requires physical security
- Inside attacks are more likely than attacks from outside the company

# Insider Threats

# CCSF's CTO



An interpretive image of the "no confidence" petition. Art by Jessica Kwan/The Guardsman

# San Francisco's NetAdmin

**Conrad del Rosario  
Assistant District Attorney  
San Francisco District Attorney's Office  
White Collar Crimes Division**

**Case study on the Terry Childs case & more**



*[image from BoingBoing](#)*

# Cyber-Bullying Accusation

## **Company Goes After One Of The World's Biggest Cyber Bully's Sam Bowne**

Company goes after one of the world's biggest cyber bully's sam bowne professor at the city college of san francisco city college employee uses school networks to commit cyber bullying

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*[PRLog \(Press Release\)](#)* - Jan 07, 2011 -

COMPANY GOES AFTER ONE OF THE WORLD'S  
BIGGEST CYBER BULLY'S SAM BOWNE  
PROFESSOR AT THE CITY COLLEGE OF SAN  
FRANCISCO



# Insider Threats

- $\frac{3}{4}$  of the serious attacks on me were from industry insiders
- Anonymous attacked one of my servers, but failed
  - Because an Anonymous insider warned me

# Keyloggers



Used to capture keystrokes on a computer

- Hardware
- Software



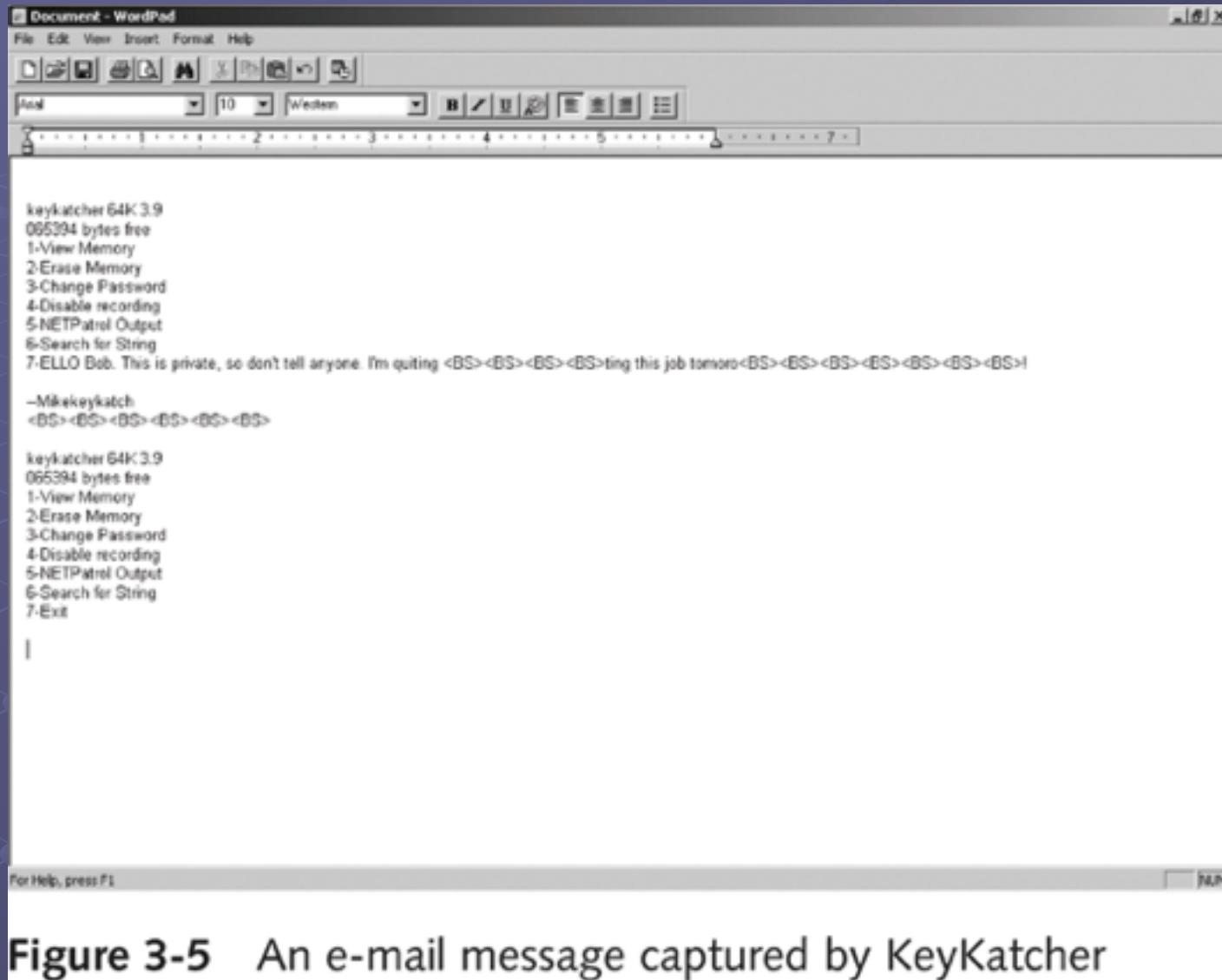
Software

- Behaves like Trojan programs

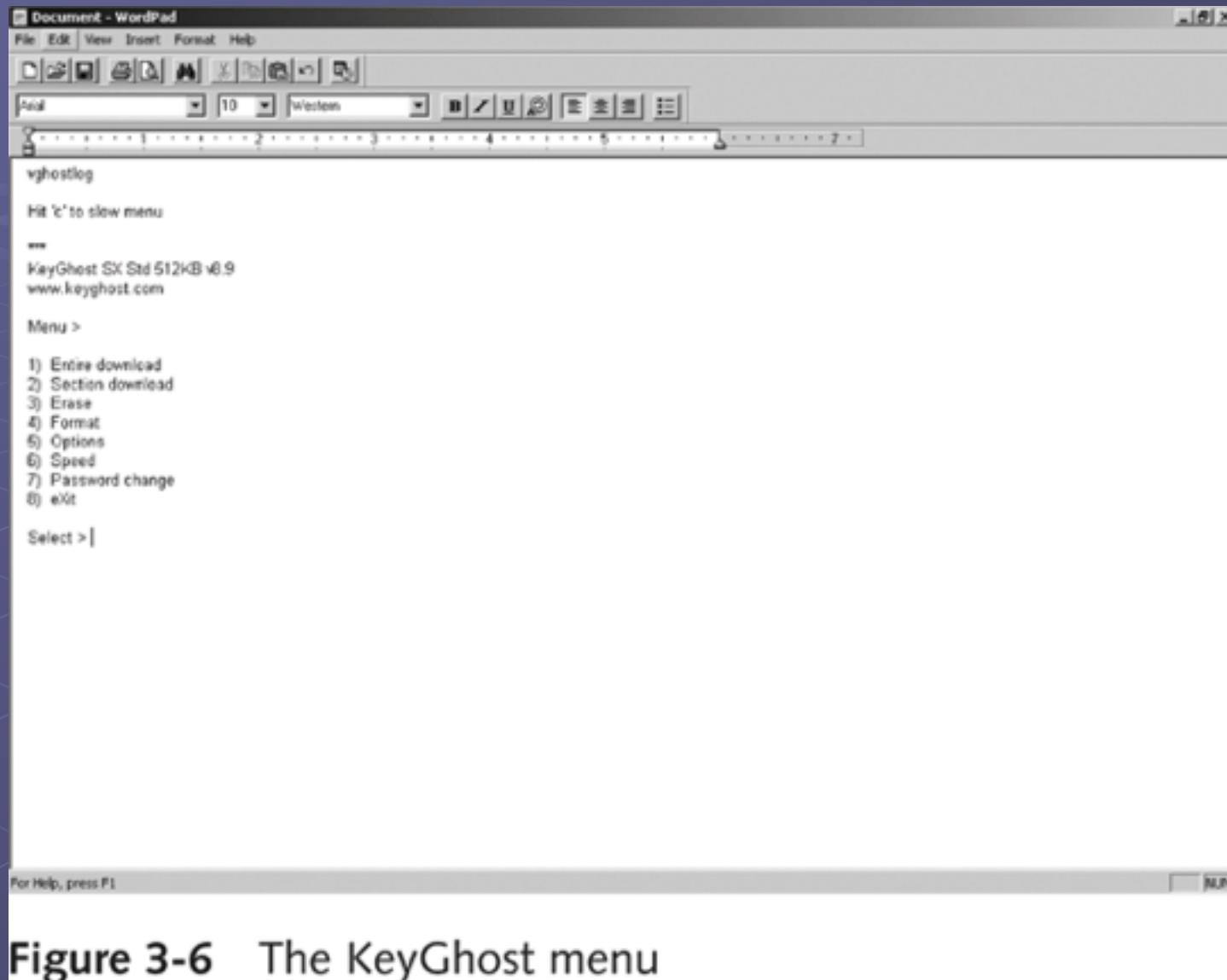


Hardware

- Easy to install
- Goes between the keyboard and the CPU
- KeyKatcher and KeyGhost



**Figure 3-5** An e-mail message captured by KeyKatcher



**Figure 3-6** The KeyGhost menu

# Keyloggers (continued)

## Protection

- Software-based
  - Antivirus
- Hardware-based
  - Random visual tests
  - Look for added hardware
  - Superglue keyboard connectors in

# Behind Locked Doors



## Lock up your servers

- Physical access means they can hack in
- Consider Ophcrack – booting to a CD-based OS will bypass almost any security

# Lockpicking

- ➊ Average person can pick deadbolt locks in less than five minutes
  - After 30 min. of practice
- ➋ Experienced hackers can pick deadbolt locks in under 30 seconds
- ➌ Bump keys are even easier (Link Ch 3o)

# Card Reader Locks

- Keep a log of who enters and leaves the room
- Security cards can be used instead of keys for better security
  - Image from link Ch 3p





# Kahoot!

Binary

Kahoot!