



Introduction to Cyber Security

Fall 2017 | Sherman Chow | CUHK IERG 4130



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信息工程 學系

Department of
Information Engineering

Acknowledgement

- ↗ Text of slides mostly from Prof. Wing Lau
- ↗ Incorporated / adapted from the following sources:
 - ↗ Kurose and Ross, Chapter 7 of "Computer Networking – a top down approach featuring the Internet 2nd ed."
 - ↗ William Stallings, "Cryptography and Network Security, 3rd ed."
 - ↗ Simon Garfinkel, Gene Spafford, "Web Security, Privacy and Commerce, 2nd ed."
 - ↗ Charlie Kaufman, Radia Perlman, Mike Spenciner, "Network Security, 2nd ed."
 - ↗ Lincoln D. Stein, "Web Security"
 - ↗ Ed Skoudis, "Counter Hack"
 - ↗ Steve Burnett, Stephen Paine, "RSA Security's Official Guide to Cryptography"
- ↗ Some sources of data:
 - ↗ CERT/CC CMU
 - ↗ Microsoft Security Intelligence Report
(<http://www.microsoft.com/security/portal/Threat/SIR.aspx>)

Acknowledgement (cont.)

- ↗ Kris Gaj, George Mason University
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- ↗ Jeff Yan, University of New Castle
- ↗ Jesse Walker, Intel
- ↗ James Kempf, DoCoMo Labs, USA

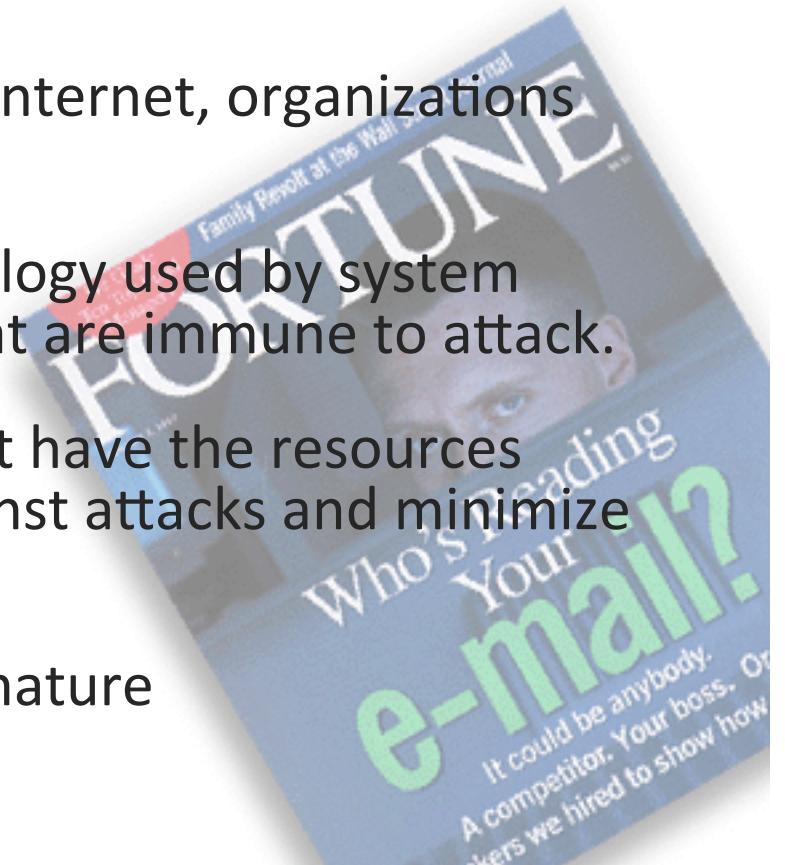
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Cyber Landscape

- ↗ Desktop workstation, Laptops
- ↗ Smartphones, Tablets
- ↗ Cloud
- ↗ Smart Grid
- ↗ Vehicular Network
- ↗ Cyber-Physical Systems
- ↗ Internet of Things, *etc.*

Landscape of Cyber Security

- ↗ Presence in the Cyber space has become Indispensable to any organization and business worldwide.
- ↗ In the rush to benefit from using the Internet, organizations often overlook significant risks.
- ↗ The engineering practices and technology used by system providers do not produce systems that are immune to attack.
- ↗ Network and system operators do not have the resources (people) and practices to defend against attacks and minimize damage.
- ↗ Policy and law in cyber-space are immature and lag the pace of change



What is Cyber Security

- ↗ The Science and Engineering of guarding computer-related systems and assets against **unintentional** or **malicious** behaviours of **intelligent adversaries**.
- ↗ Security vs. Reliability (e.g., airplane/building/car safety)
 - ↗ Intentional vs. Accidental fault/failure
 - ↗ Bad guys in security can be very smart and creative
- ↗ “Cyber World” vs. “Physical World”
 - ↗ Street-smart users may become silly in the cyberspace

What is Cyber Security (cont.)

- ↗ Security is a relative concept
- ↗ vs. functional requirements (e.g., usability) of **honest users**
 - ↗ E.g., how much time you wait at the gate for security check →
 - ↗ E.g., how do you unlock your smartphone?
- ↗ vs. goal and capabilities of the **adversary**
 - ↗ E.g., fingerprint unlock
 - ↗ What if the attacker has “access” of your finger (while you Zzz...)?

Example: Cloud Security

- ↗ **Multi-tenant** cloud environment
- ↗ Isolation **via virtual-machine**
- ↗ **Cloud operator** may not be trustworthy
- ↗ Outsourced (computation over) sensitive data
 - ↗ E.g. Big Data Analytics

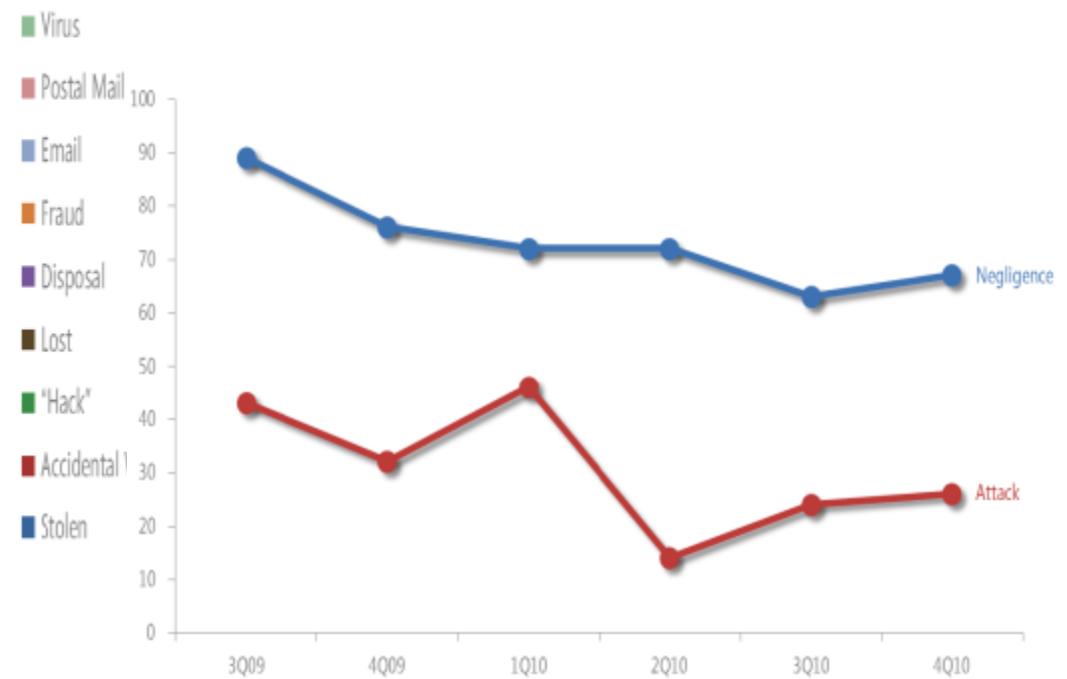
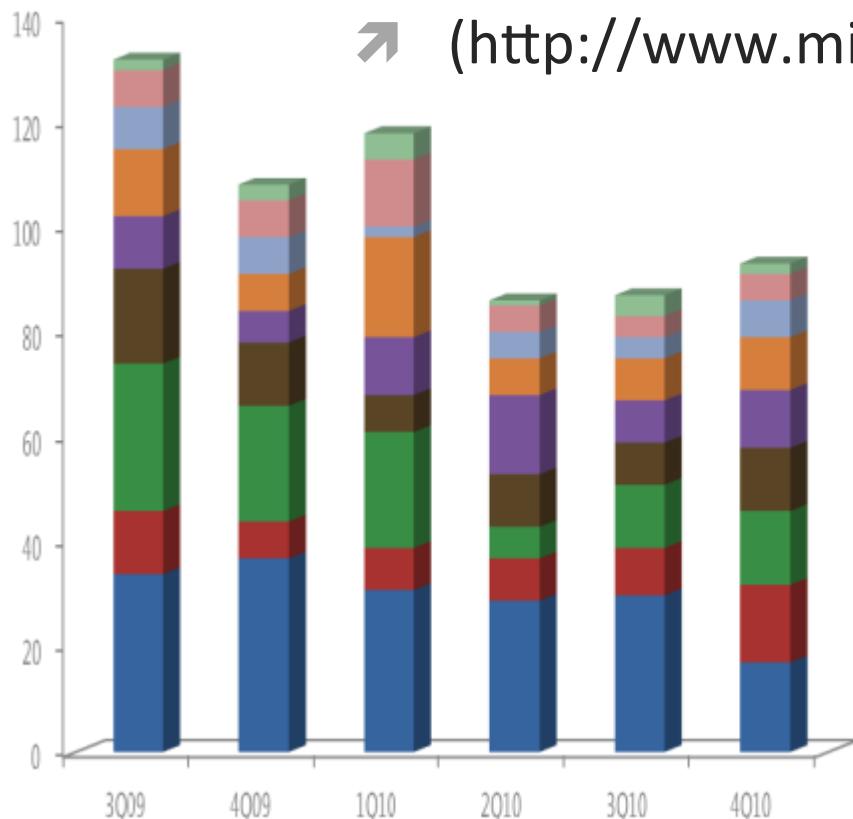
Introduction (Part 1)

- ↗ Security Breaches, Vulnerabilities, Attack Sophistication
- ↗ Vulnerability Exploit Cycle
- ↗ How secure our web is? Window of Exposure, and global stat.
- ↗ Digital Pests, Spam, Phishing, Rogue Software, *etc.*
- ↗ Common exploit

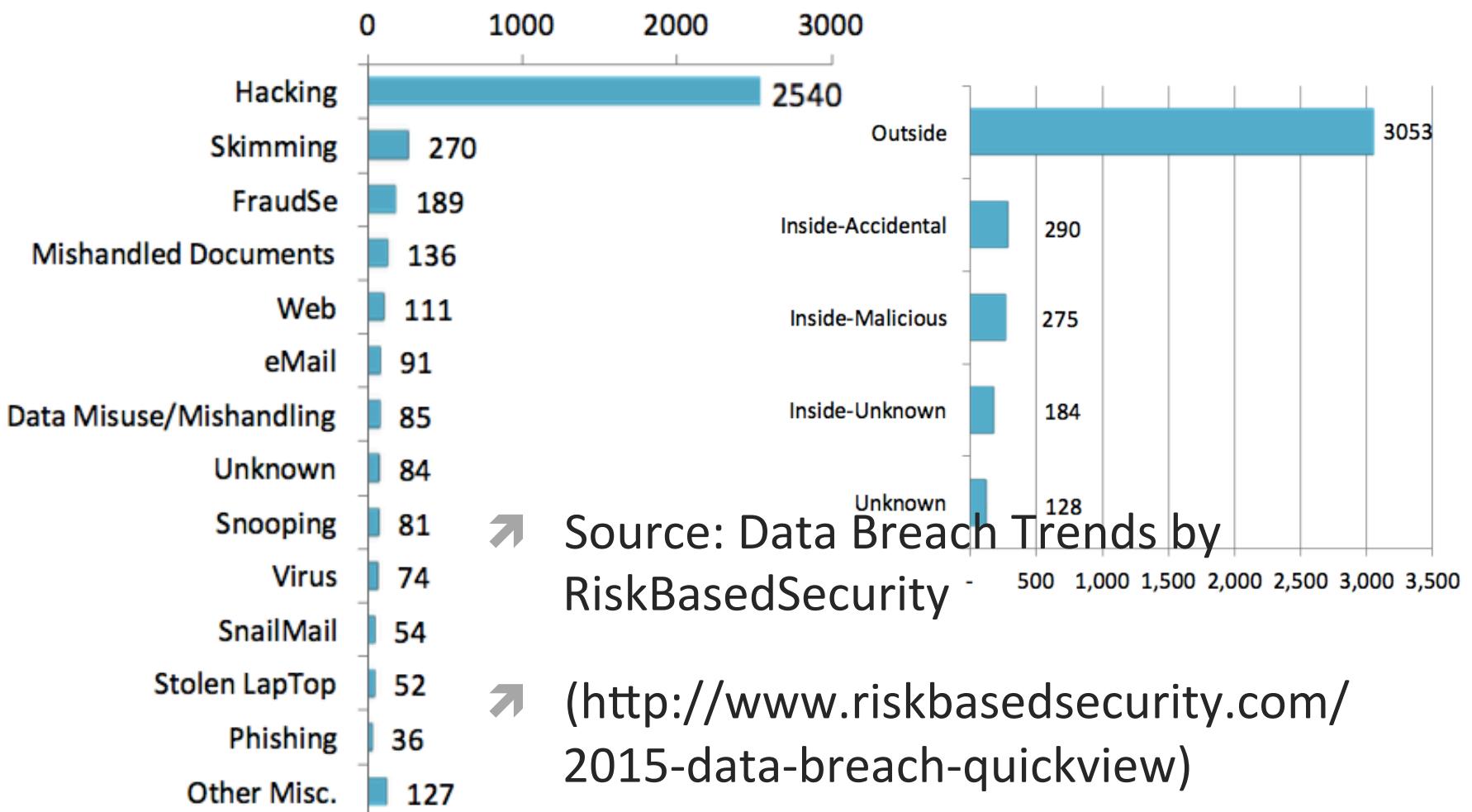
Security Breach Incident Types (2010)

↗ Source: Microsoft Security Intelligence Report (SIR)

↗ (<http://www.microsoft.com/security/sir/default.aspx>)



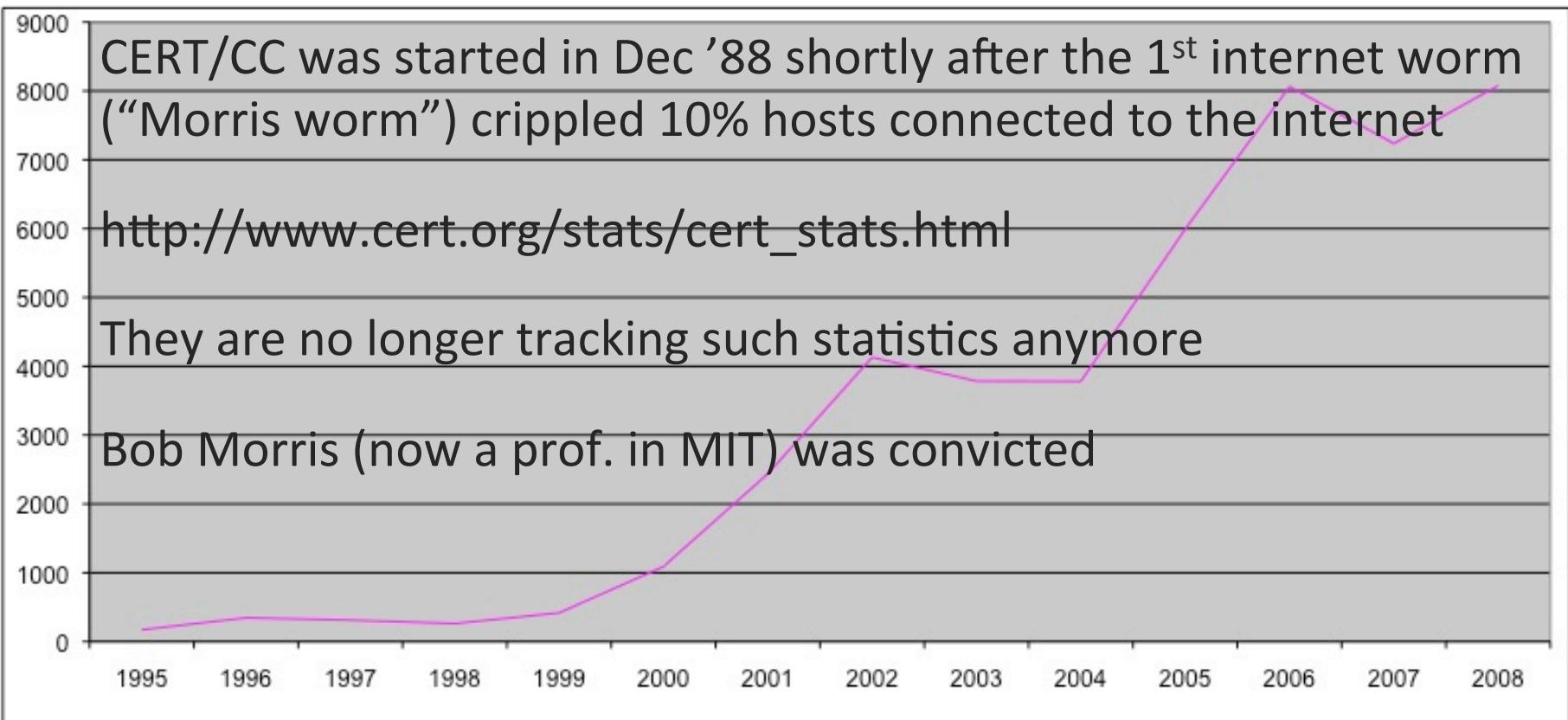
Security Breach Incident Types



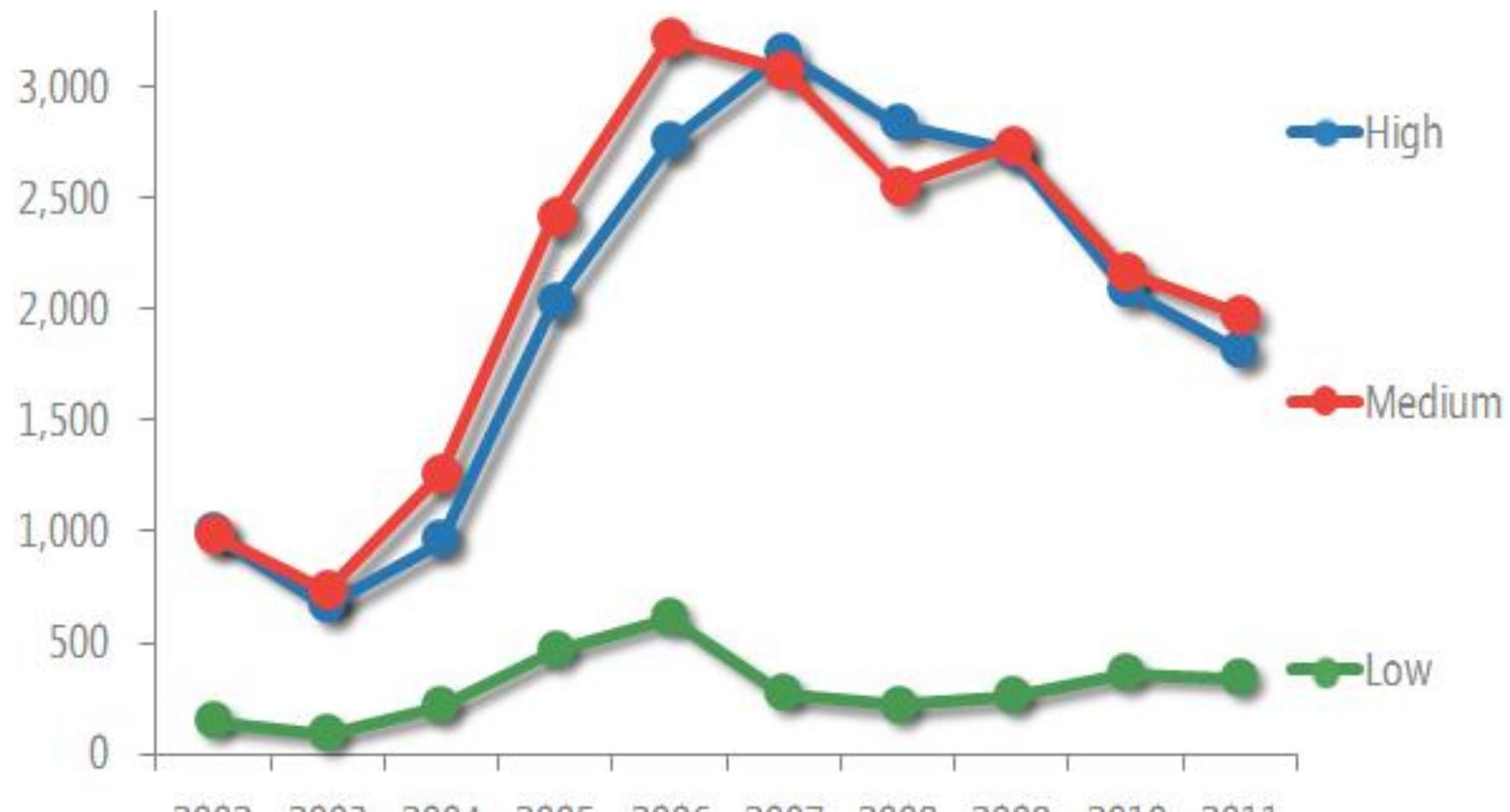
Security Breach Incident Types (cont.)

| SIR Label | Definition | DataLossDB Breach Types |
|------------------|---|--|
| Stolen equipment | Stolen computers, disks, tapes, or documents | Stolen computer / document / drive / laptop / media / tape |
| "Hack" | Reported as some type of computer intrusion where the data is not available to the public | Hack |
| Lost equipment | Reported as lost computers, disks, tapes, or documents | Lost computer / doc. / ... |
| Accidental web | Accidental exposure on a web site, available to the public with a browser | Web |
| Fraud | Frauds and scams, perpetrated by insiders or outsiders; this includes dispute cases, on which Microsoft takes no position | Fraud Se |
| Postal Mail | Information exposed by physical mail, either sent to an incorrect recipient or with data visible outside the envelope | Snail Mail |
| E-Mail | E-mail sent to an unintended or unplanned recipient | Email |
| Disposal | Improper disposal of any sort | Disposal comp. / doc. / ... |
| Malware | Malware was blamed | Virus |
| Missing | One or more laptop computers gone missing without explanation | Missing Laptop |

Vulnerabilities Catalogue by CERT/CC

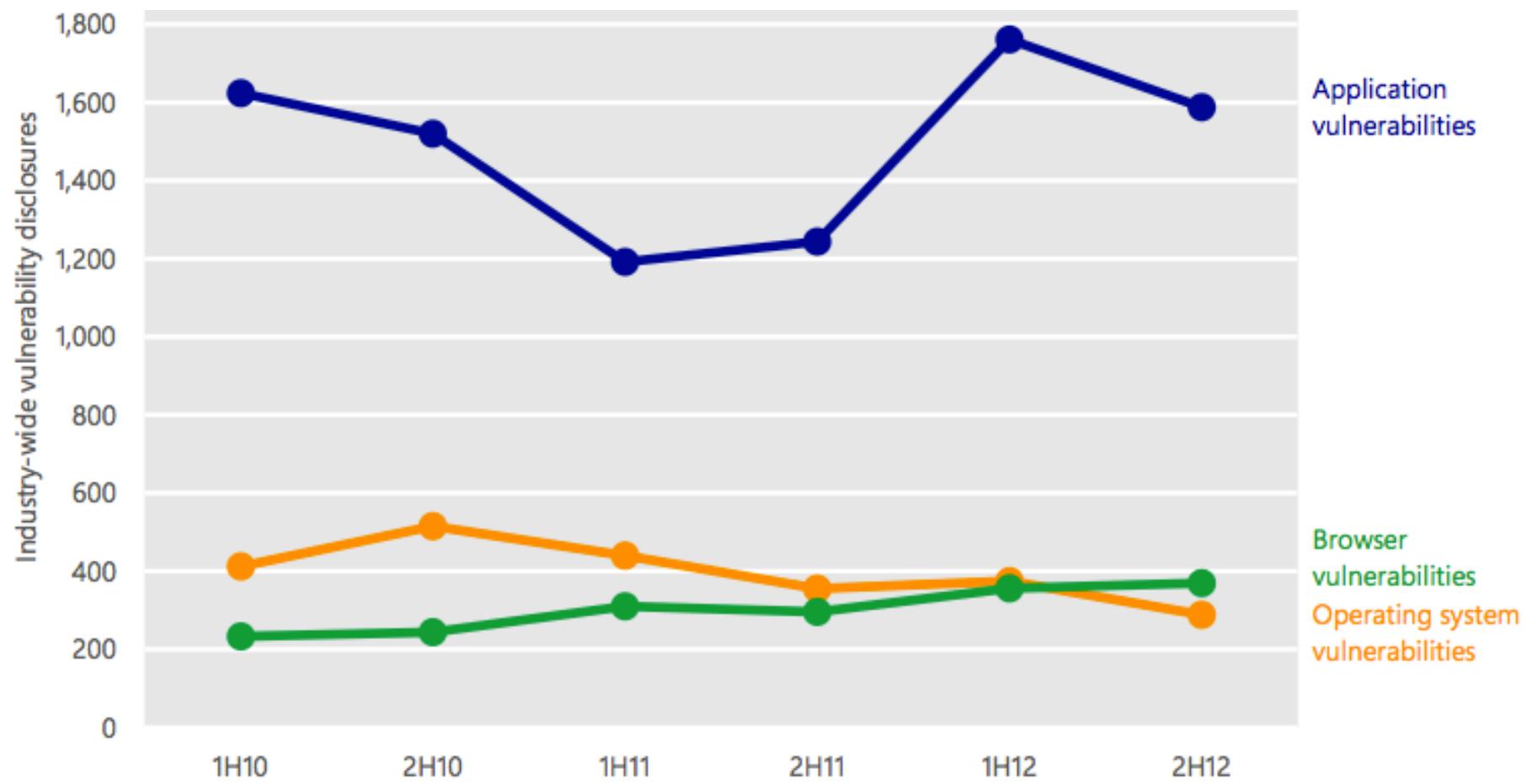


Industry-wide #. of Vulnerabilities Disclosures by Severity ('02 – '11)



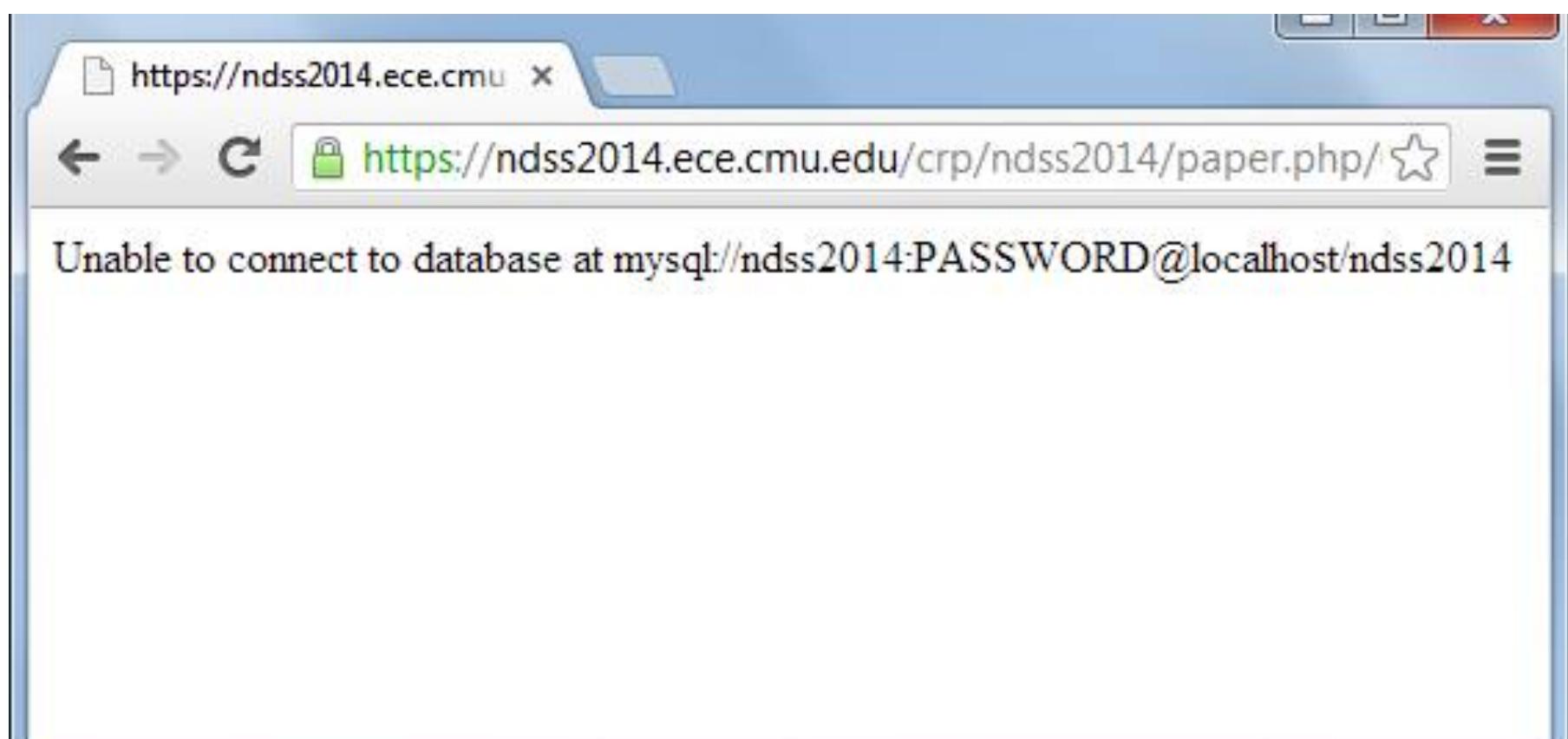
↗ Source: MS Security Intelligence Report

Source of Vulnerabilities

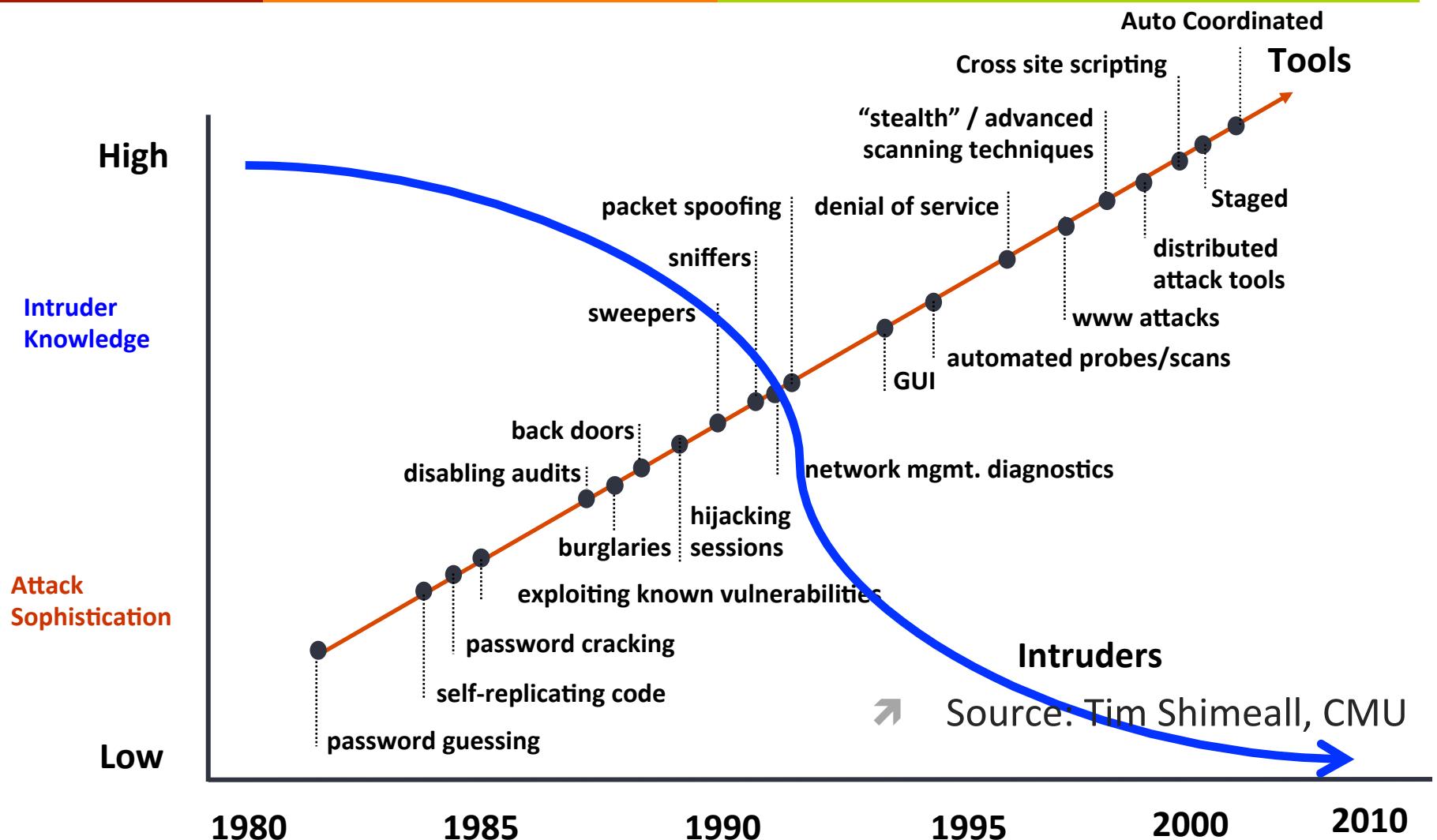


↗ Source: MS Security Intelligence Report

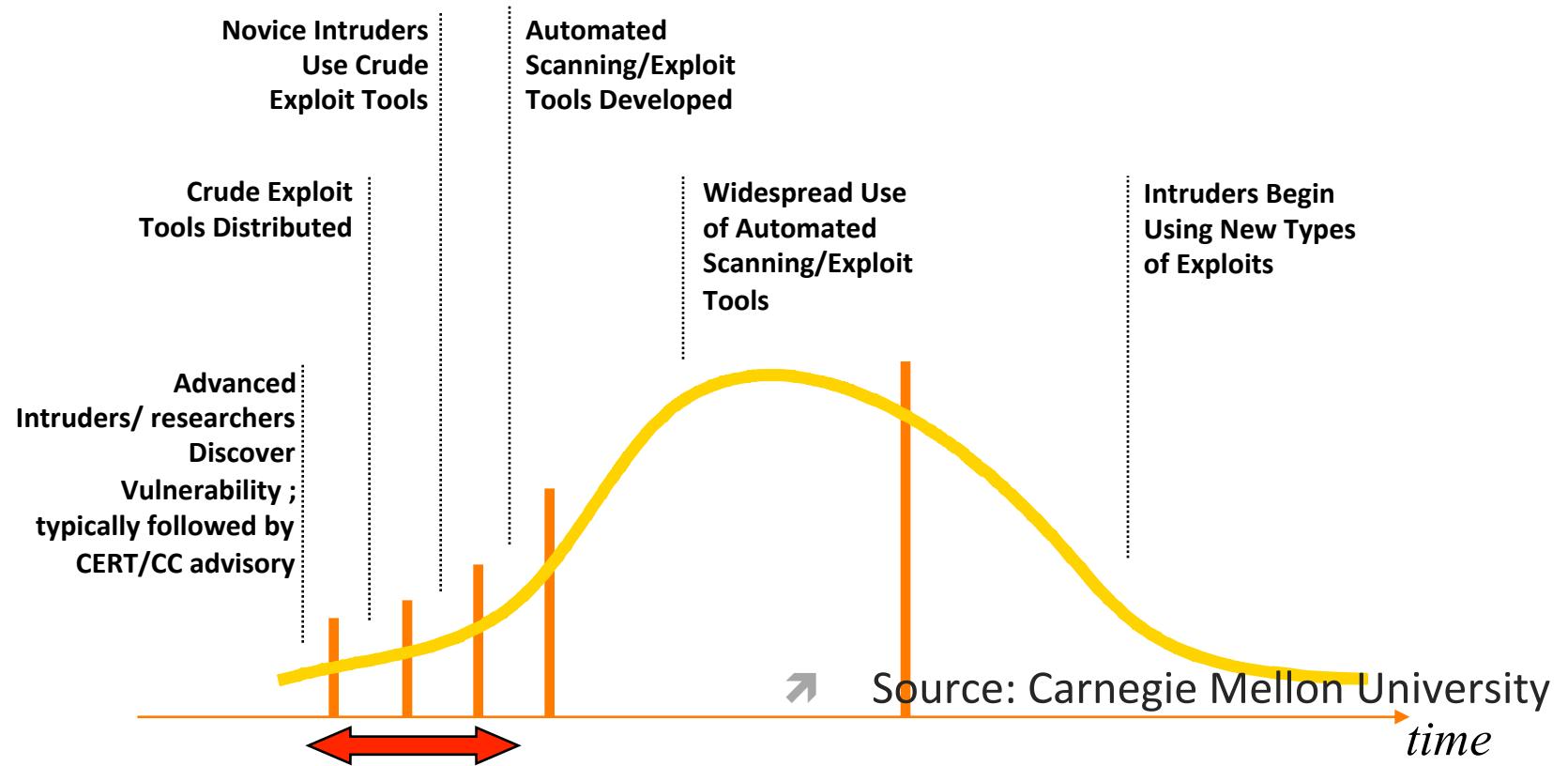
Network and Distributed System Security



Attack Sophistication vs. Intruder Technical Knowledge



Shortening of Vulnerability Exploit Cycle



- Used to be several months, e.g., **6 months** for SQL Slammer Worm (Jan 2003)
- Now, a matter of weeks or shorter. Thanks to framework tools e.g., Metasploit

How soon will your door be knocked?

- ↗ Experiment run by the worm.sdsc.edu Project:
 - ↗ Attach and Monitor an “Out of the Box” system on the Internet
 - ↗ First got probe for RPC vulnerabilities detected (after 8 hours)
 - ↗ The system was then completely compromised and a network sniffer was installed by the intruder (within a few weeks)
- ↗ You may be under similar risk if your home PC is hooked onto the Internet (Dial up or Broadband) “naked”
 - ↗ Forgot to turn the host-based firewall of the networked laptop back on => got totally compromised over the weekend

Sources: "The Laws of Vulnerabilities." Gerhard Eschelbeck, BlackHat Conf. '04
Slide from Prof. Wing Lau

The Window of Exposure

- ↗ Websites are an ongoing business concern and security must be assured all the time, not just at a point in time.
- ↗ Window-of-Exposure is the number of days in a year a website is exposed to at least one serious* vulnerability.
 - ↗ Serves as a true Key Performance Indicator
 - ↗ *Those vulnerabilities with a High, Critical, or Urgent severity as defined by PCI-Data Security Standard naming conventions.

Source: Jeremiah Grossman, Whitehead Security Inc.

The Window of Exposure (cont.)

- ↗ Not only be measured by the number of vulnerabilities
- ↗ But also take into account remediation rates and time-to-fixes.
- ↗ SiteA had 10 vulnerabilities identified during last year, 365 of those days it had at least one of those issues publicly exposed.
- ↗ SiteB had 100 vulnerabilities identified during last year, 10 of those days it had at least one of those issues publicly exposed.
- ↗ Which has a better security posture?

Source: Jeremiah Grossman, Whitehead Security Inc.

State of Web Security in '11 (by Industry)

| Industry | Annual Avg. Vulnerabilities | Std. Dev. | Avg. Time-to- Fix (Days) | Average Remediation | Std. Dev. | Window of Exposure (Days) | Std. Dev. |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| ALL | 79 | 670 | 38 | 63% | 36 | 231 | 159 |
| Banking | 17 | 554 | 45 | 74% | 37 | 185 | 147 |
| Education | 53 | 885 | 30 | 46% | 37 | 261 | 153 |
| Financial Services | 67 | 853 | 80 | 63% | 35 | 227 | 157 |
| Healthcare | 48 | 461 | 35 | 63% | 36 | 239 | 155 |
| Insurance | 92 | 171 | 40 | 58% | 32 | 211 | 154 |
| IT | 85 | 36 | 35 | 57% | 31 | 208 | 159 |
| Manufacturing | 30 | 56 | 17 | 50% | 33 | 252 | 125 |
| Retail | 121 | 125 | 27 | 66% | 36 | 238 | 160 |
| Social Networking | 31 | 431 | 41 | 62% | 43 | 264 | 162 |
| Telecom | 52 | 82 | 50 | 69% | 31 | 271 | 136 |
| Non-Profit | 37 | 56 | 94 | 56% | 40 | 320 | 168 |
| Energy | 31 | 62 | 4 | 40% | 35 | 250 | 154 |

Source: Whitehat Security Website Statistics Report

The Window of Exposure '10 and '11

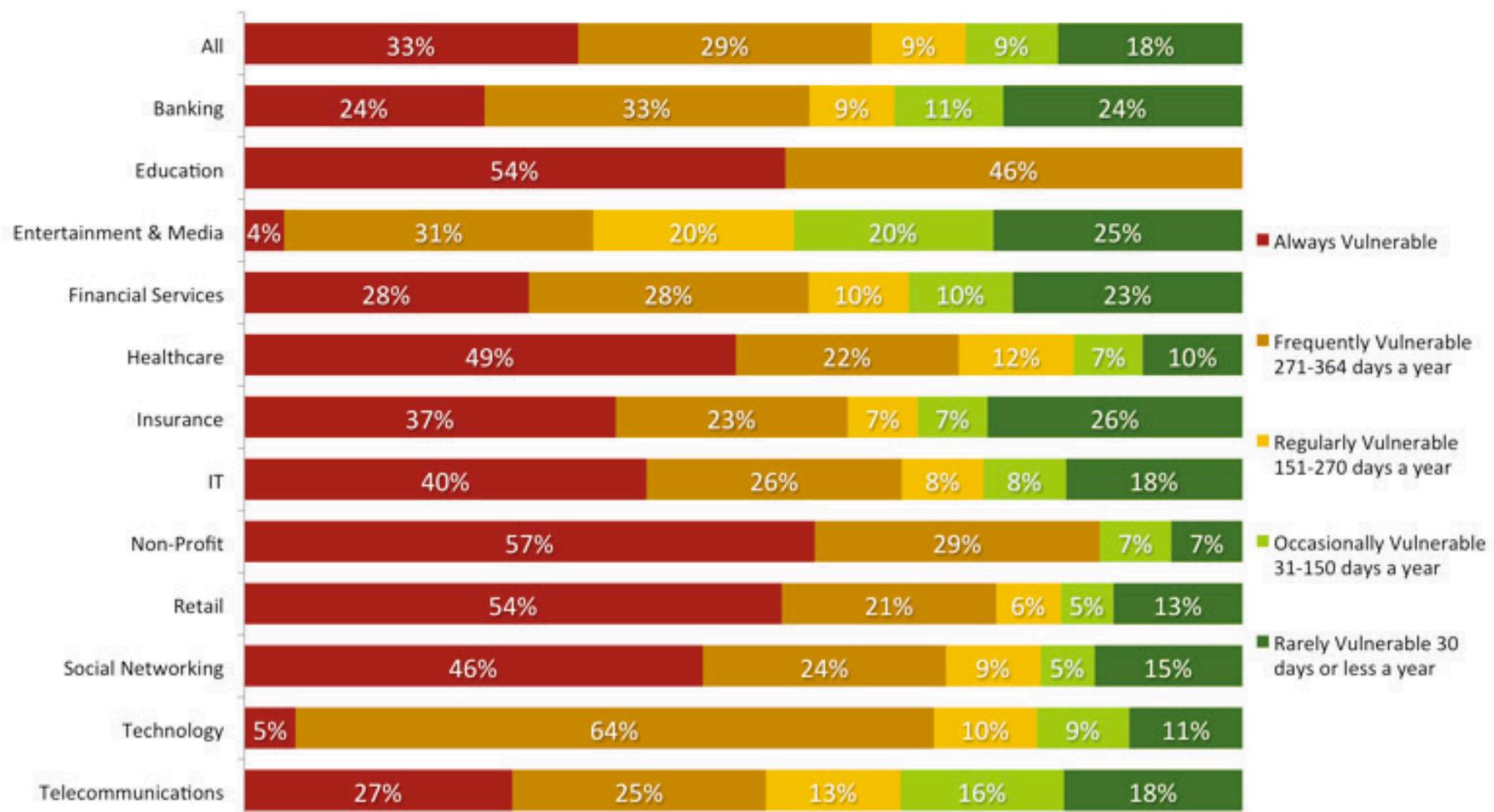
- Most websites were exposed to at least one serious vulnerability every single day of 2010, or nearly so (9-12 months of the year).
 - Exploitation could lead to breach or data loss.
- Only 16% of websites were vulnerable less than 30 days of the year overall.
- # of days improved from 233 to 231 days over a year...

State of Web Security in '12 (by Industry)

| Industry | Avg Vuln Sites | Annual Avg Vulns | Remediation Rate | Avg. Time-to-Fix (Days) |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| All | 86% | 56 | 61% | 193 |
| Entertainment & Media | 91% | 12 | 81% | 33 |
| Financial Services | 81% | 50 | 67% | 226 |
| Retail | 91% | 106 | 54% | 224 |
| Technology | 85% | 18 | 61% | 71 |
| IT | 85% | 114 | 54% | 185 |
| Healthcare | 90% | 22 | 53% | 276 |
| Banking | 81% | 11 | 54% | 107 |
| Manufacturing | 100% | 27 | 55% | 197 |
| Social Networking | 86% | 20 | 46% | 175 |
| Telecommunications | 89% | 20 | 74% | 163 |
| Education | 100% | 47 | 58% | 342 |
| Energy | 100% | 59 | 71% | 144 |
| Insurance | 78% | 39 | 55% | 274 |
| Government | 100% | 8 | 65% | 48 |
| Non Profit | 95% | 28 | 41% | 236 |
| Food & Beverage | 100% | 18 | 46% | 36 |
| Gaming | 92% | 17 | 46% | 67 |

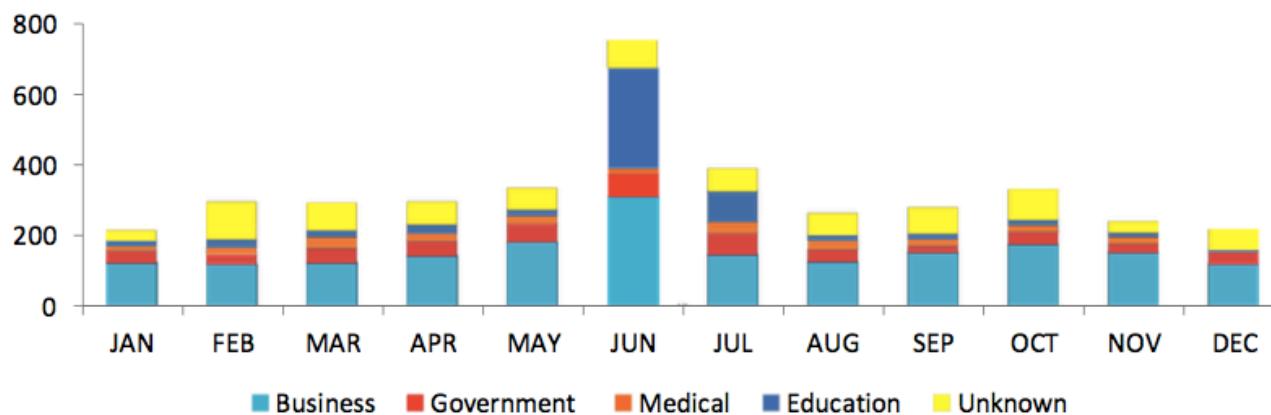
↗ https://www.whitehatsec.com/assets/WPstatsReport_052013.pdf

The Window of Exposure in '12

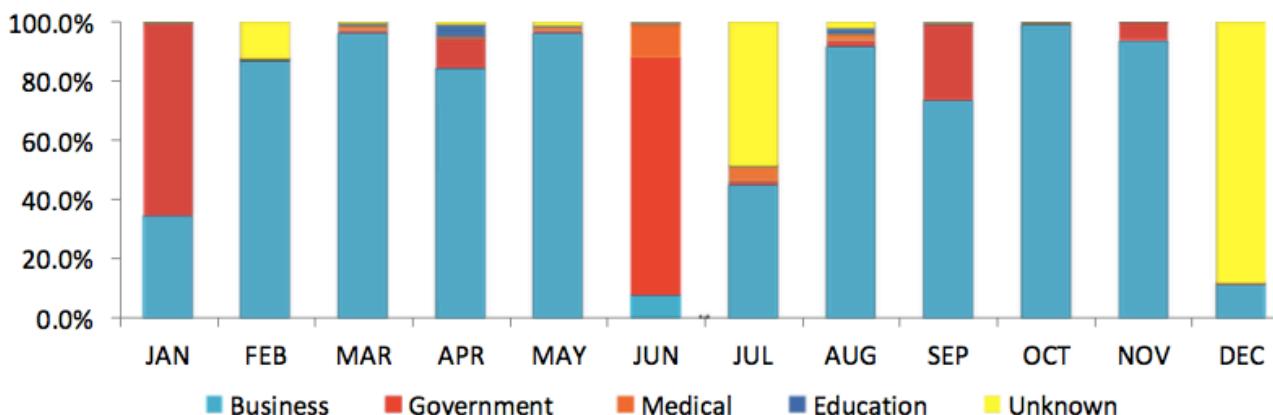


State of (In)Security in '15 (by Industry)

2015 Incidents by Industry



2015 Exposed Records by Industry



Why do vulnerabilities go unfixed?

- ↗ No one at the organization understands or is responsible for maintaining the code.
- ↗ Development group does not understand or respects the vulnerability.
- ↗ Feature enhancements are prioritized ahead of security fixes.
- ↗ Lack of budget to fix the issues.
- ↗ Affected code is owned by an unresponsive third-party vendor.
- ↗ System/Application/Website will be decommissioned or replaced “soon.”
- ↗ Risk of exploitation is accepted.
- ↗ Solution conflicts with business use case.
- ↗ Compliance does not require fixing the issue.
- ↗ www.whitehatsec.com/assets/presentations/11PPT/PPT_topwebvulns_030311.pdf

Prompt Security Testing is Crucial

If the response time from security testing process is:



Then, development time required to fix is:

- Developer introduces code with a vulnerability

Source: http://img.en25.com/Web/WhiteHatSecurityInc/WPstats_summer12_12th.pdf

Various Types of Digital Pest

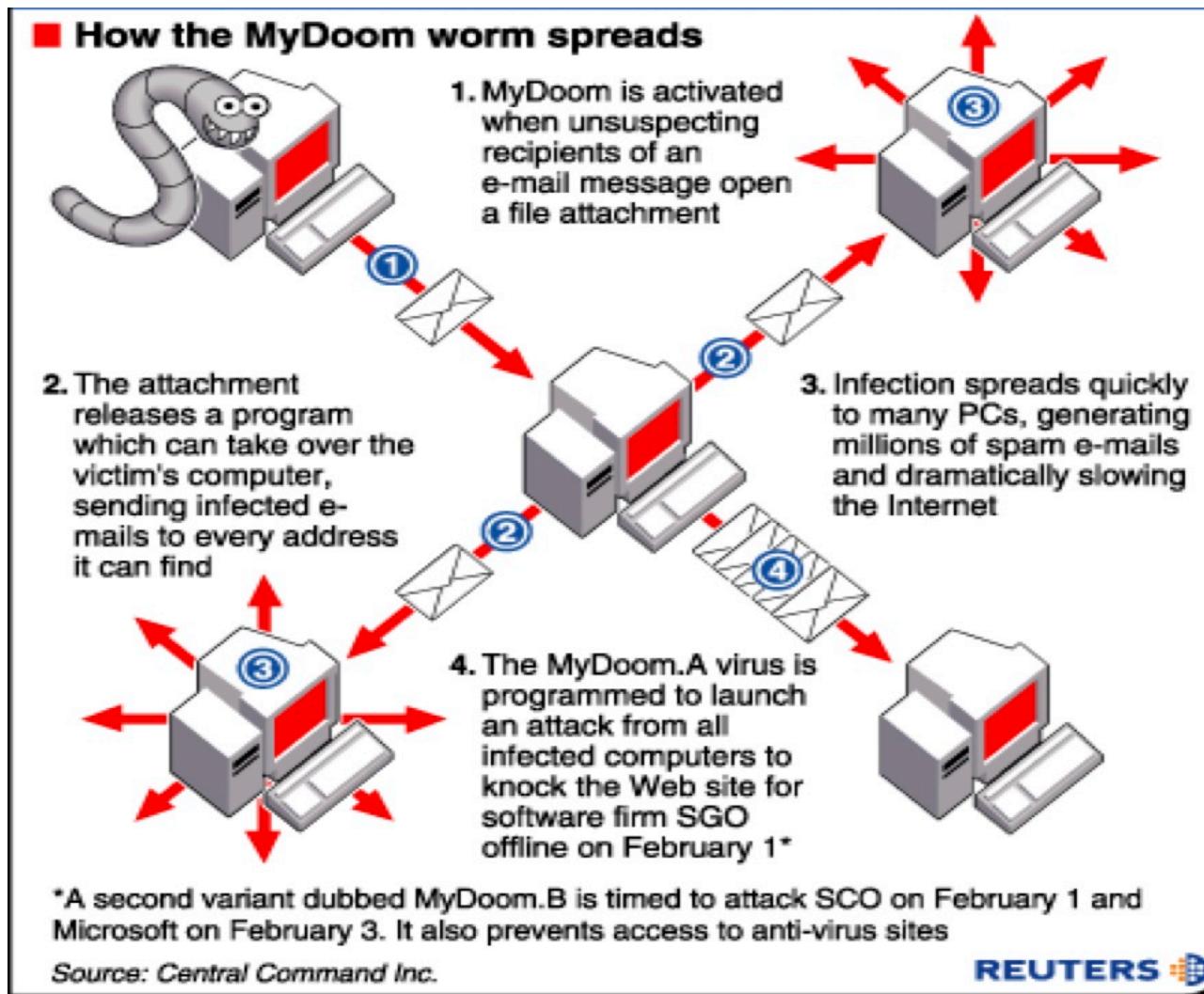
- ↗ **Logic Bomb:** logic embedded in a program that checks for a set of conditions to arise and executes some function resulting in unauthorized actions
- ↗ **Backdoor/Trapdoor:** secret undocumented entry point into a program, used to grant access without normal methods of access authentication (*remember the movie: War Games*)
- ↗ **Trojan Horse:** secret undocumented routine embedded within a useful program, execution of the program results in execution of the routine
 - ↗ Common motivation is to destroy data or provide illegal access



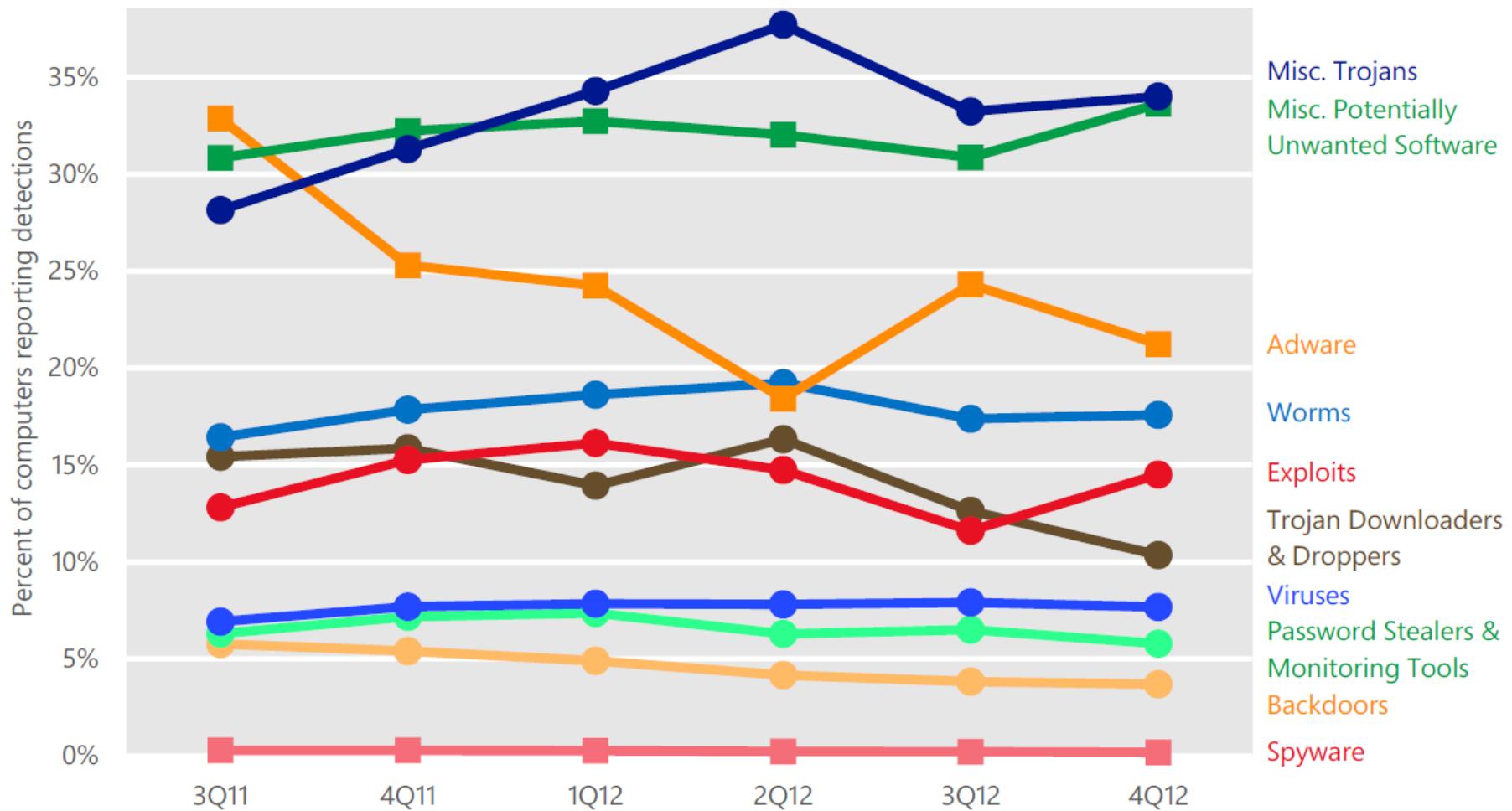
Various Types of Digital Pest (cont')

- ↗ **Virus**: code embedded within a program that causes a copy of itself to be inserted in other programs and performs some unwanted function
 - ↗ Infects other programs
- ↗ **Worm**: program that can replicate itself and send copies to computers across the network and performs some unwanted function
 - ↗ Uses network connections to spread from system to system
- ↗ **Zombie/Bot**: a program that secretly takes over an Internet attached computer and then uses it to launch an untraceable attack
 - ↗ Very common in Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attacks

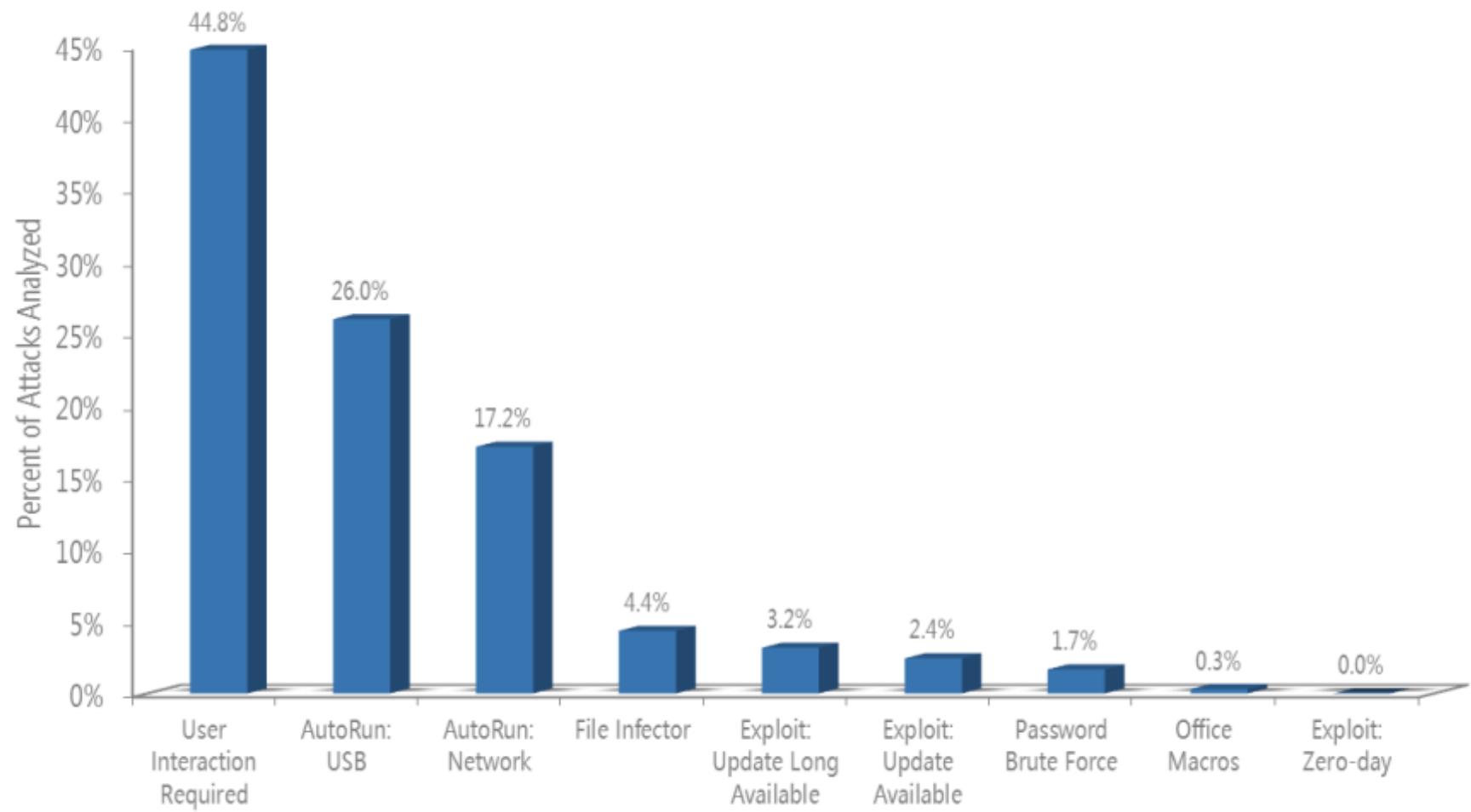
Spreading of Worms



Computer Cleaned by Threat Categories

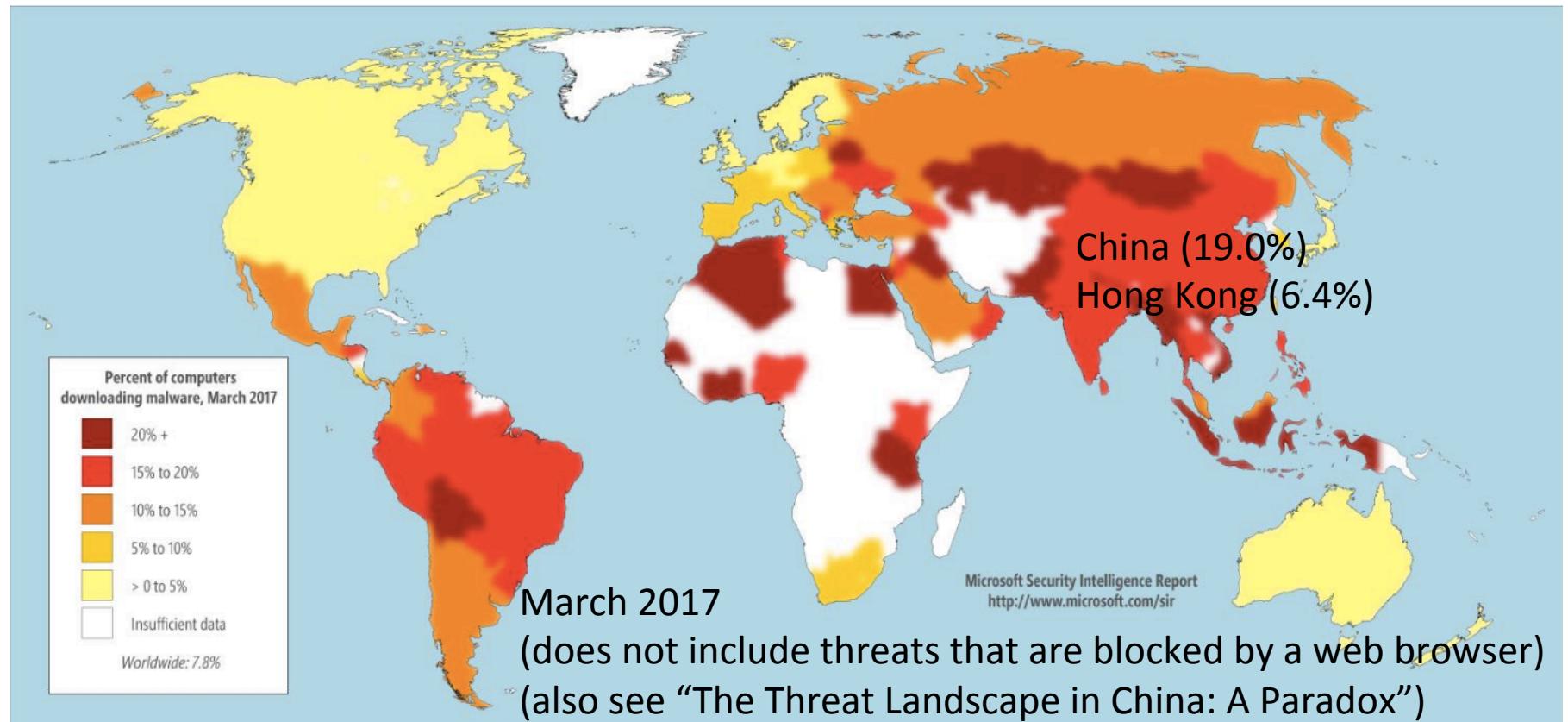


Means of Propagation for Malware (1H'11)



↗ Source: MS Security Intelligence Report

Encounter Rates by Country/Region



- High: Bangladesh (26.6%), Pakistan, Indonesia, and Egypt
- Low: Japan (1.1%), Finland, Sweden, and Norway

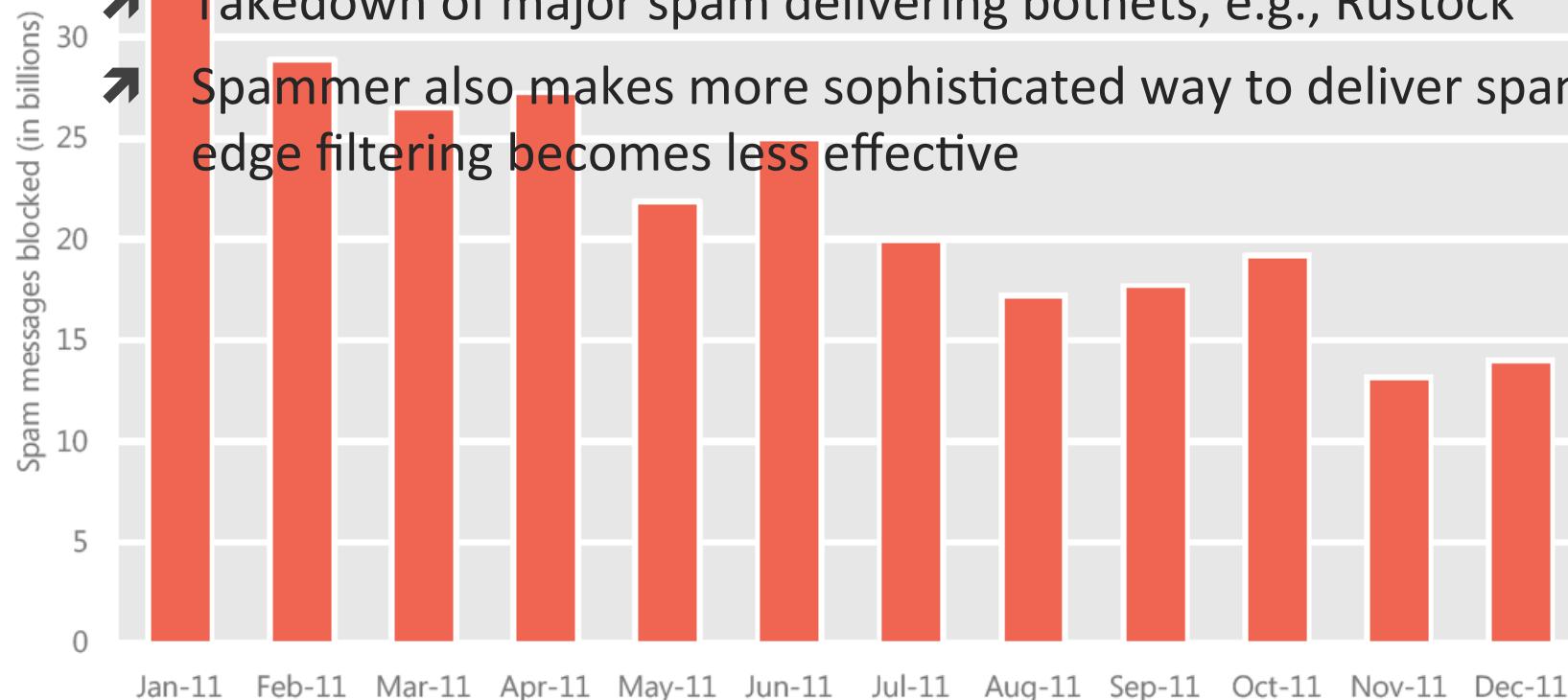
Email Threats: Spam

- Greater than 97% emails sent over the Internet are unwanted!
- In 2010, only 1 out of 38.5 incoming messages made it to the inbox. The rest were blocked by either:
 - Network edge filtering (95.3%), e.g., IP addr reputation, SMTP connection analysis, recipient analysis; or
 - Resource-intensive content-based filtering (4.7%)
- Still strong financial incentive for Spammers
- How to prevent your email address from being harvested?

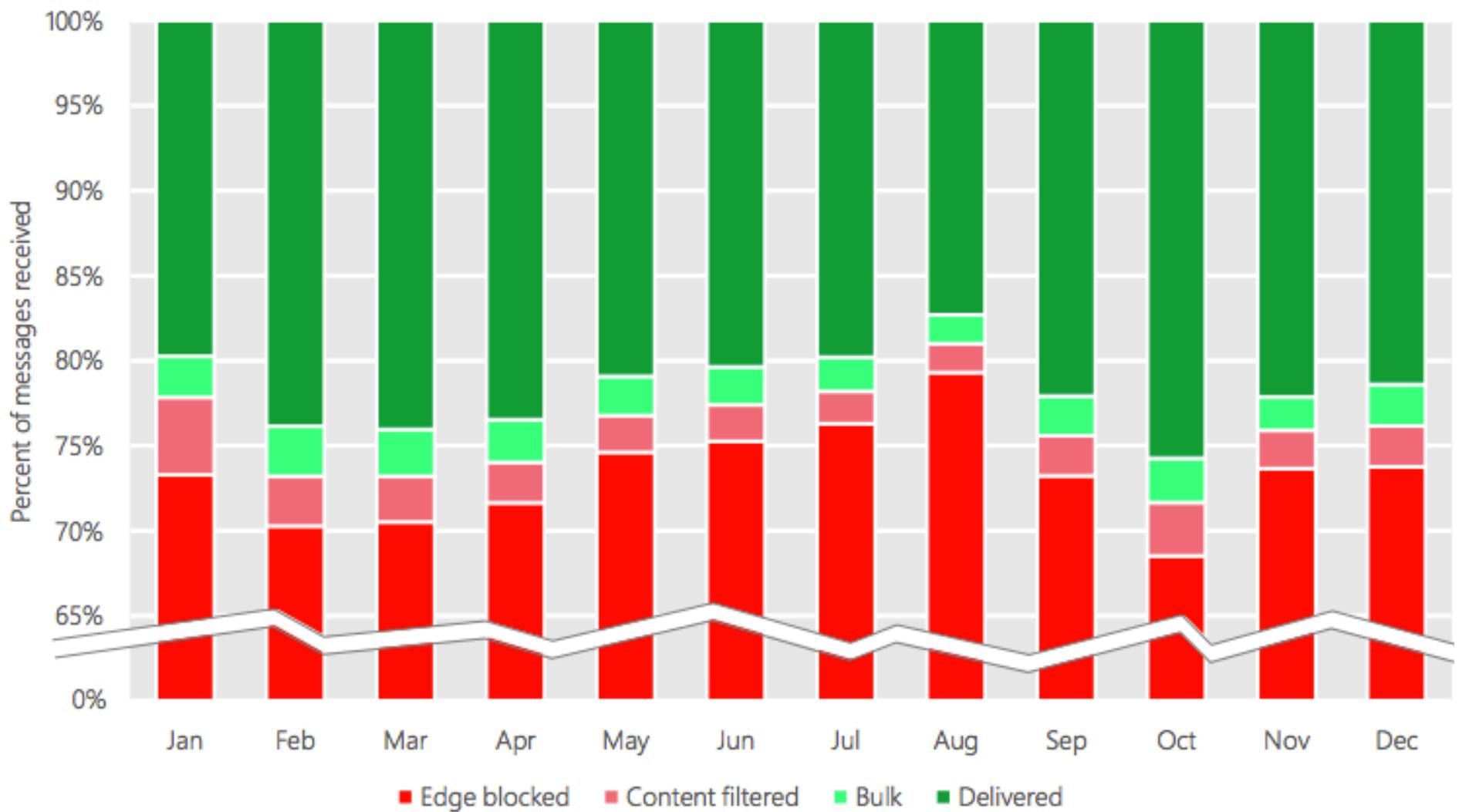
Combating the botnet menace

↗⁴⁰ Throughout 2011, emails blocked by MS FOPE drops by almost 50% due to:

- ↗ Takedown of major spam delivering botnets, e.g., Rustock
- ↗ Spammer also makes more sophisticated way to deliver spam, edge filtering becomes less effective



Yet, it strikes back in 2012...



What spam I receive most?

My inbox became a lot more manageable after I implemented this filter:

Create a Filter

Choose search criteria Specify the criteria you'd like for determining what to do with a message as it arrives.

Has the words:

"Call for papers"



Apply the label: Academic Spam ▾

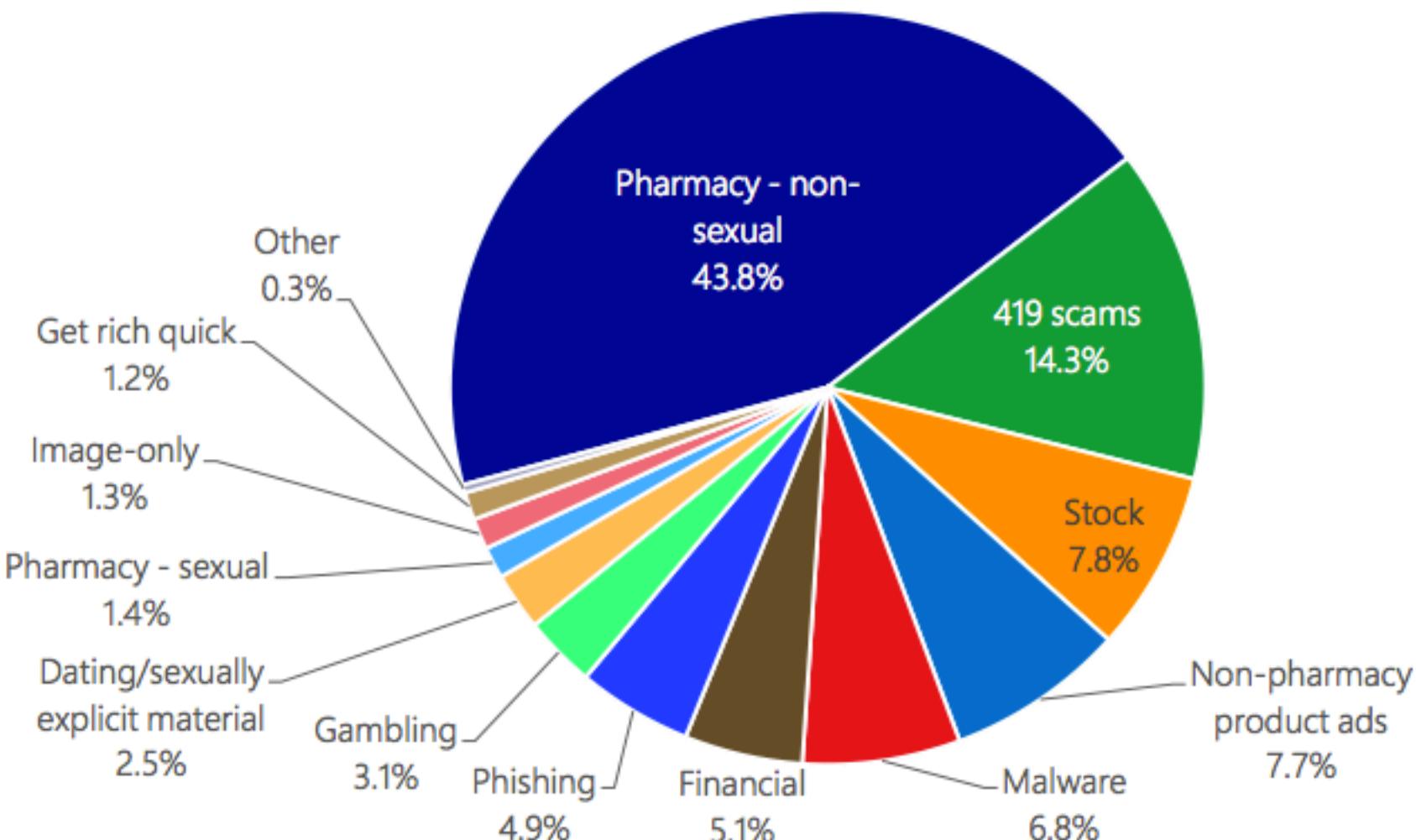
Create Filter

Also apply filter to 1900 conversations below.



no joke!

Types of Spam in 2H'12



Phishing (an actual example)

- Phishing: A fraudulent attempt to trick you to provide personal information, e.g., HKID #, password, credit card #, etc.

From: CUHK <JPAGALO@espol.edu.ec>
Date: 13 August 2012 9:06:04 AM GMT+08:00
To: undisclosed-recipients:
Subject: CUHK Important Notification
Reply-To: webmasterss@cuhk.edu.hk

Attention IE account holder,

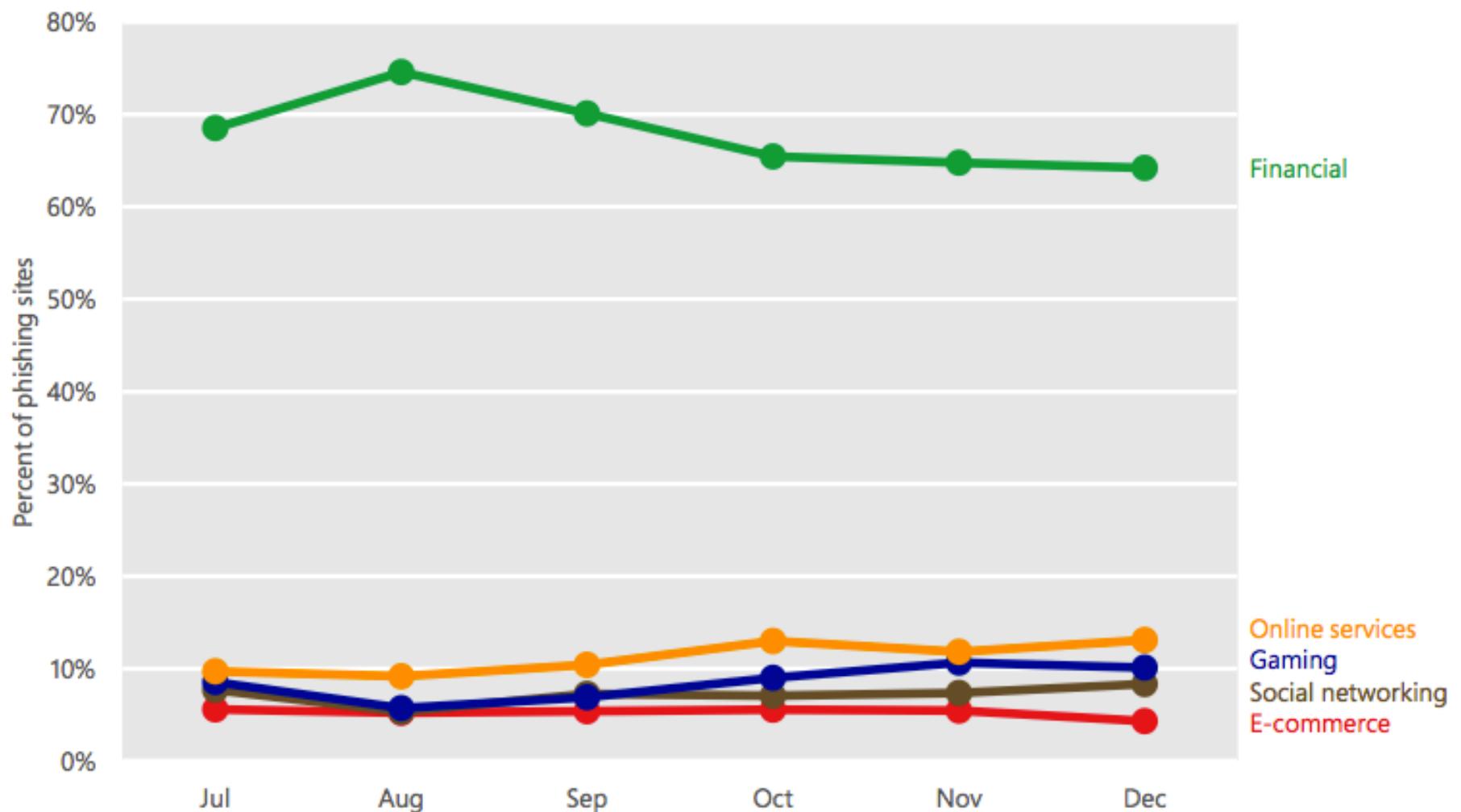
This message is from the Chinese University of Hong Kong technical support center, we will be making some vital E-mail account maintenance to ensure that we provide high quality in Internet connectivity in the 2012 and fight spam and improve security, all Mail-hub systems will undergo regularly scheduled maintenance.

To confirm and to keep your account active during and after this process Kindly Click and fill the following information: **Click**

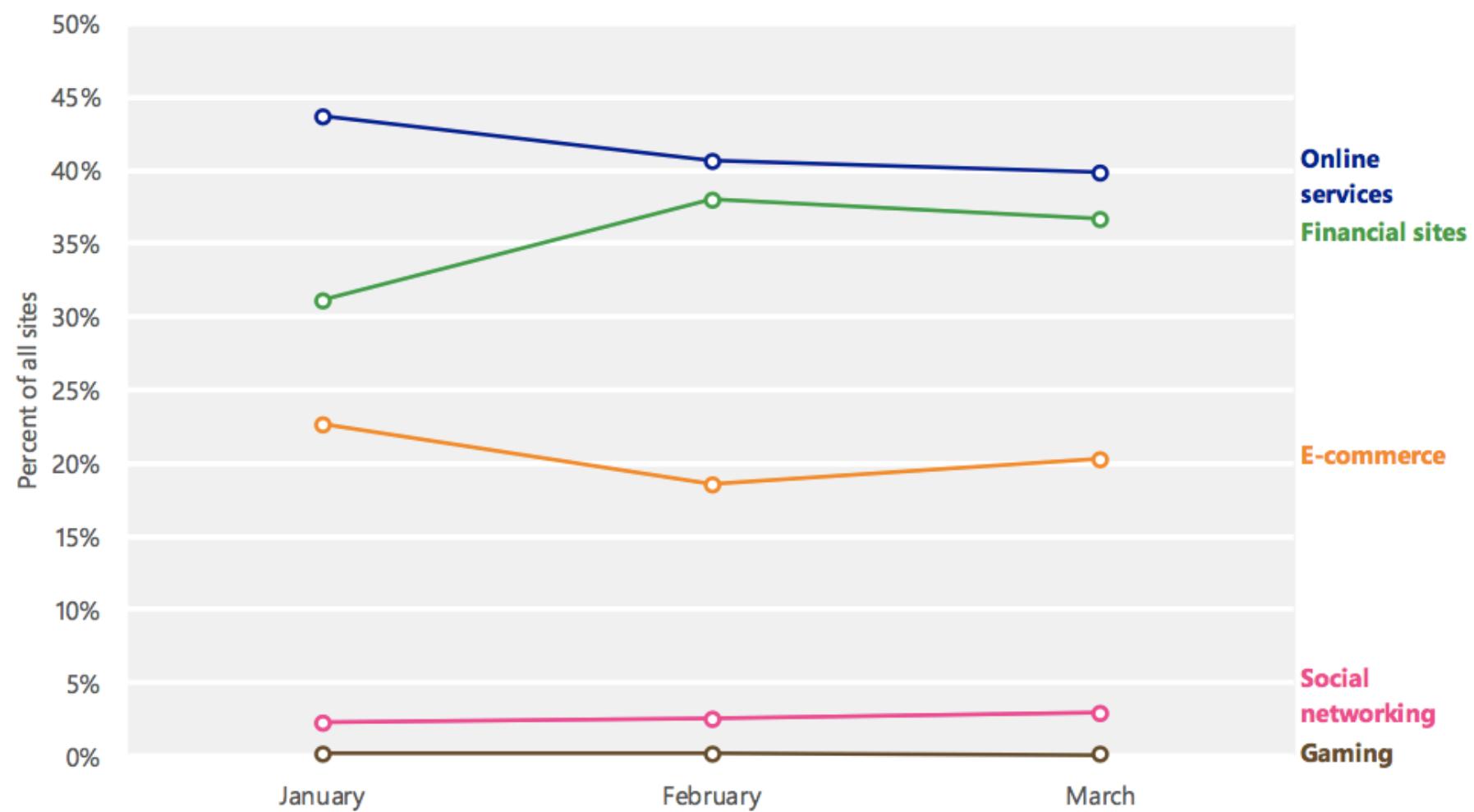
Web Services / Information Technology Department,
Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK)



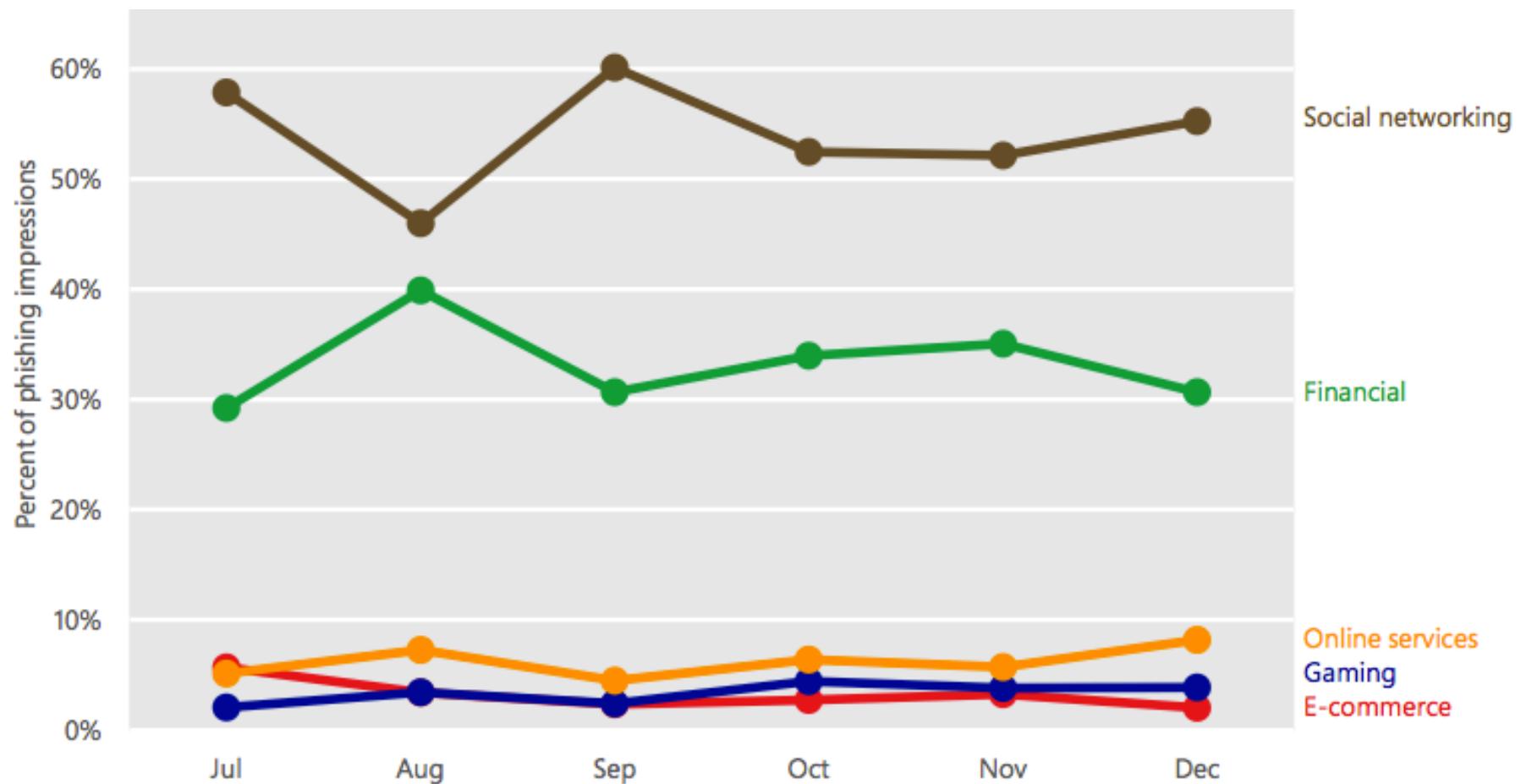
Types of Phishing Target Sites in '12



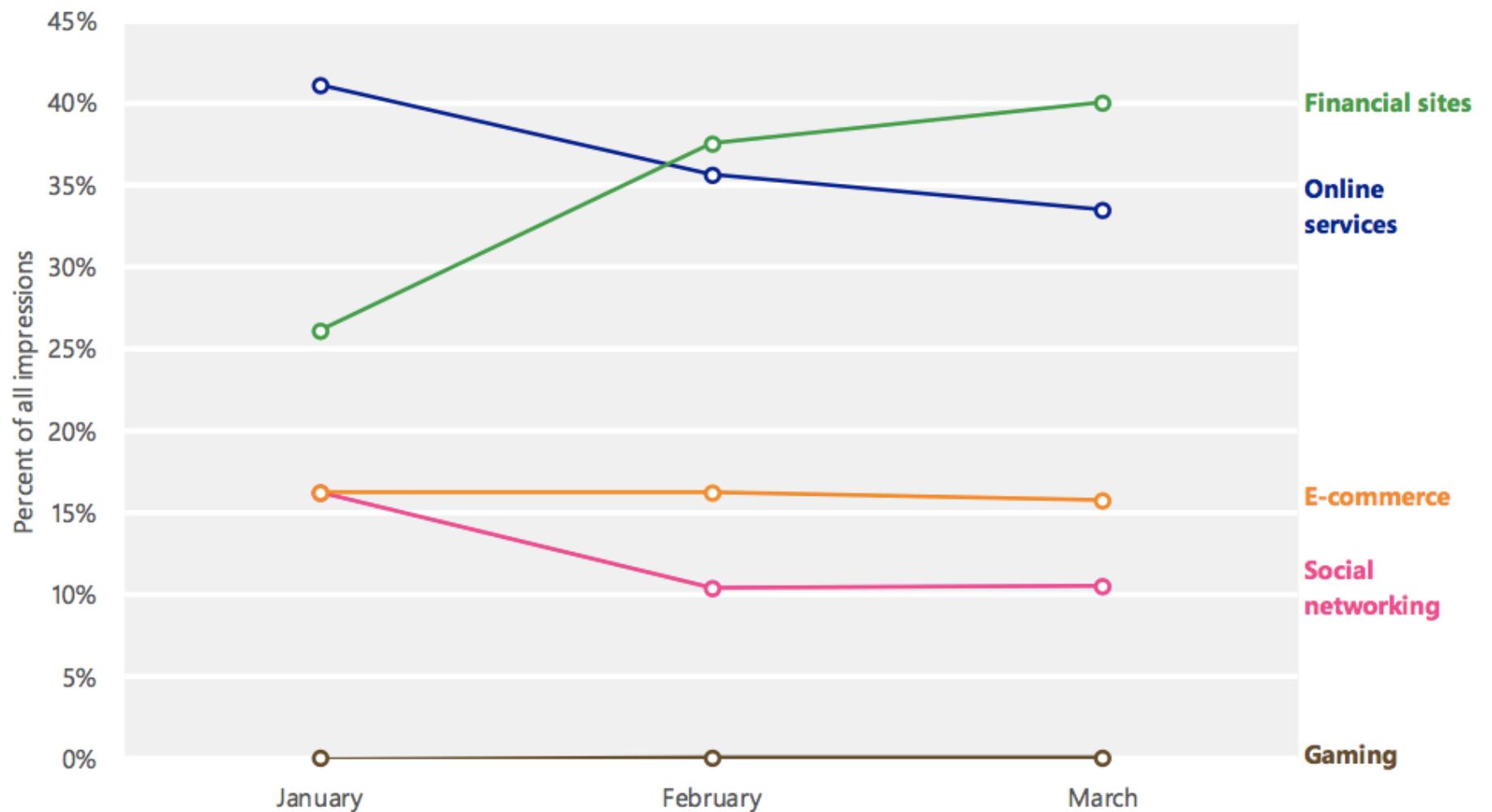
Types of Phishing Target Sites in 1Q17



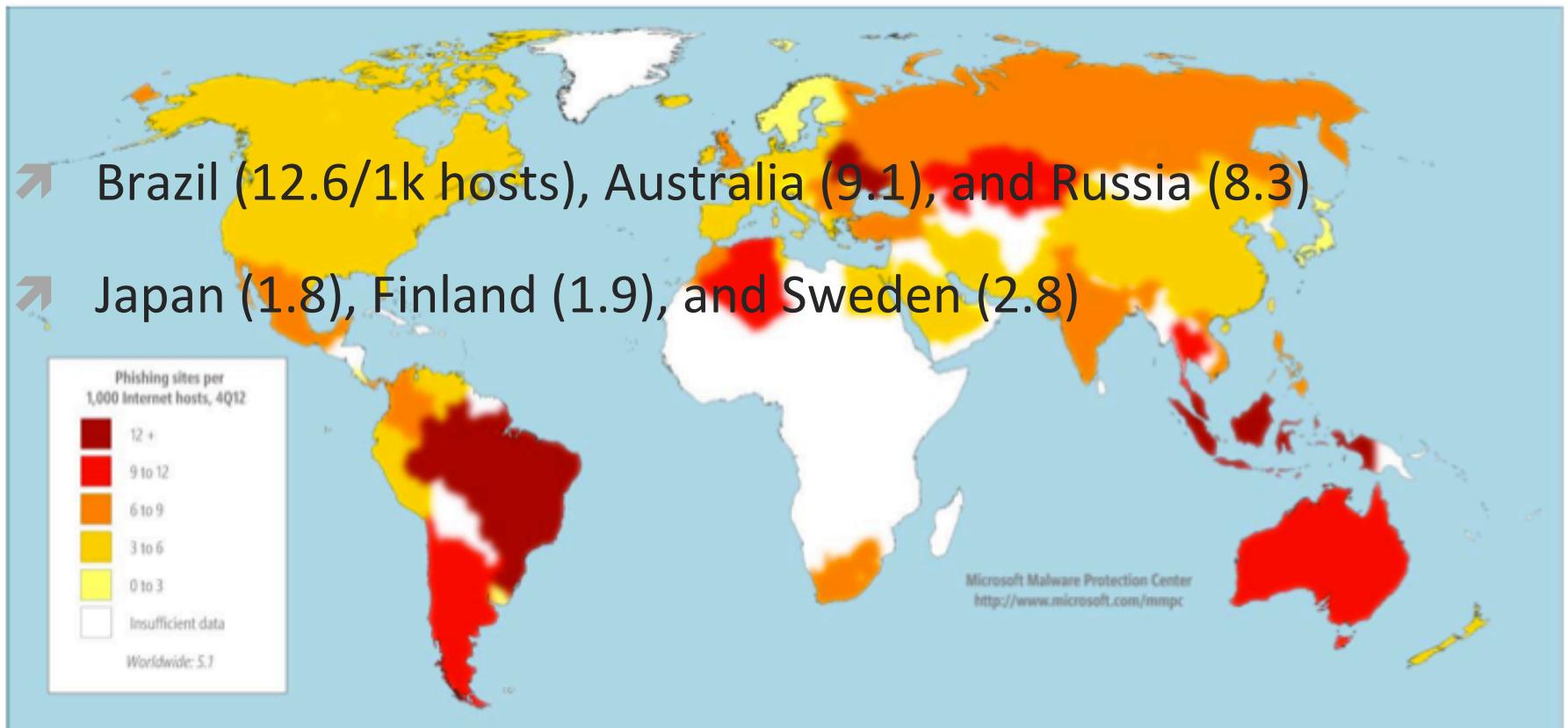
Impression ('12)



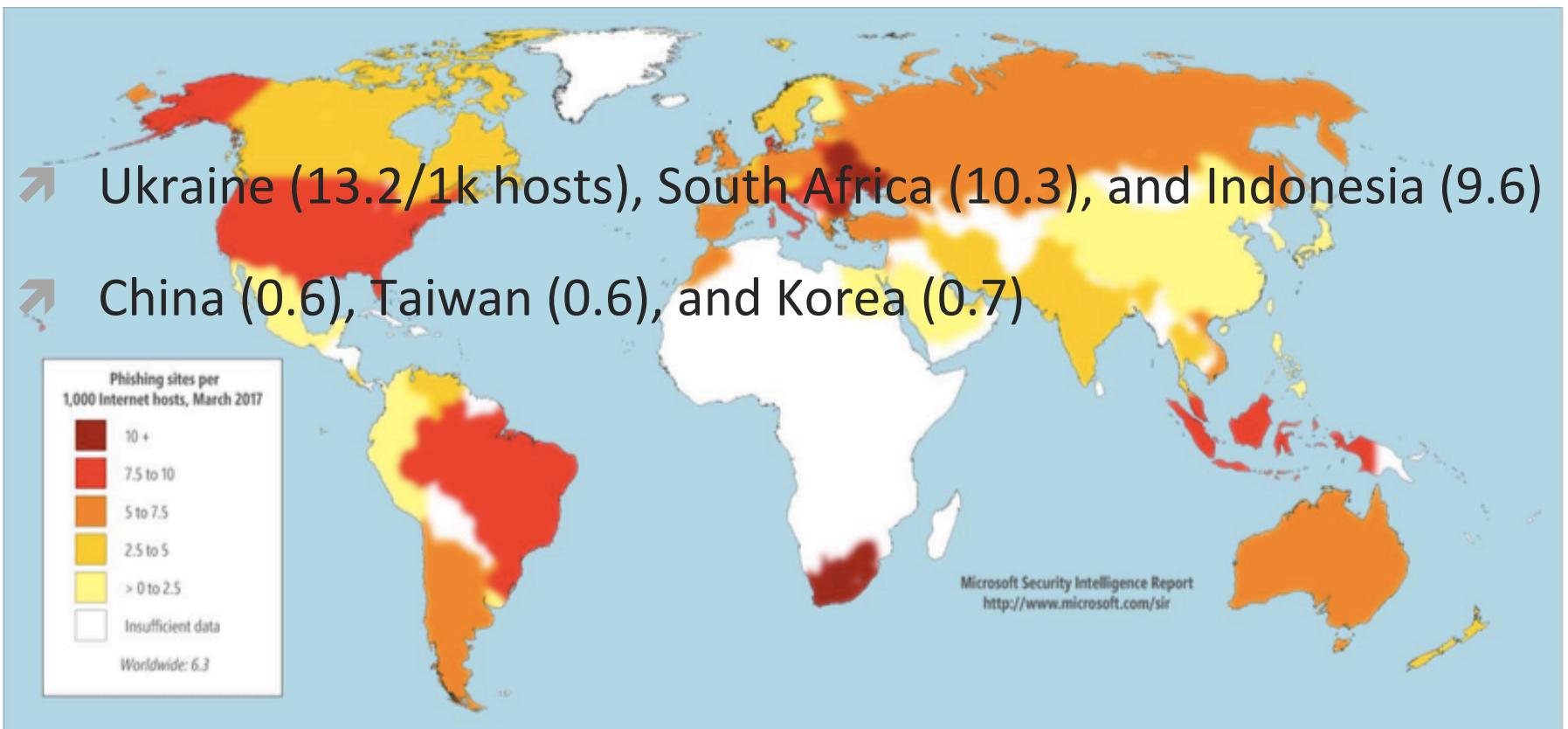
Impression ('17)



Phishing Sites hosted Worldwide in 4Q'12

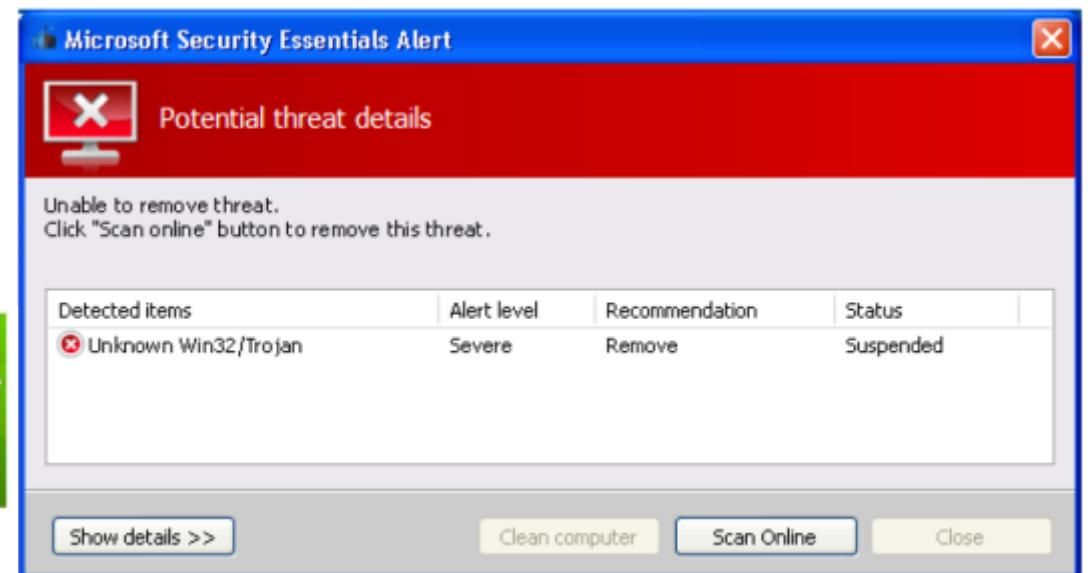


Phishing Sites hosted Worldwide in 1Q'17



Rogue Security Software

- ↗ a.k.a. Rogue Anti-Malware, Scareware
- ↗ Rapid growth in the past couple of years
- ↗ www.microsoft.com/security/antivirus/rogue.aspx



More Rogue Security Software

The screenshot shows the interface of the HDDDefragmenter software. At the top, there's a navigation bar with tabs: System Status, Diagnostics, Run Defragmentation (which is selected), and Settings & Options. Below the navigation bar, the main title is "Defragmentation & Optimization". A table lists errors with their details and status:

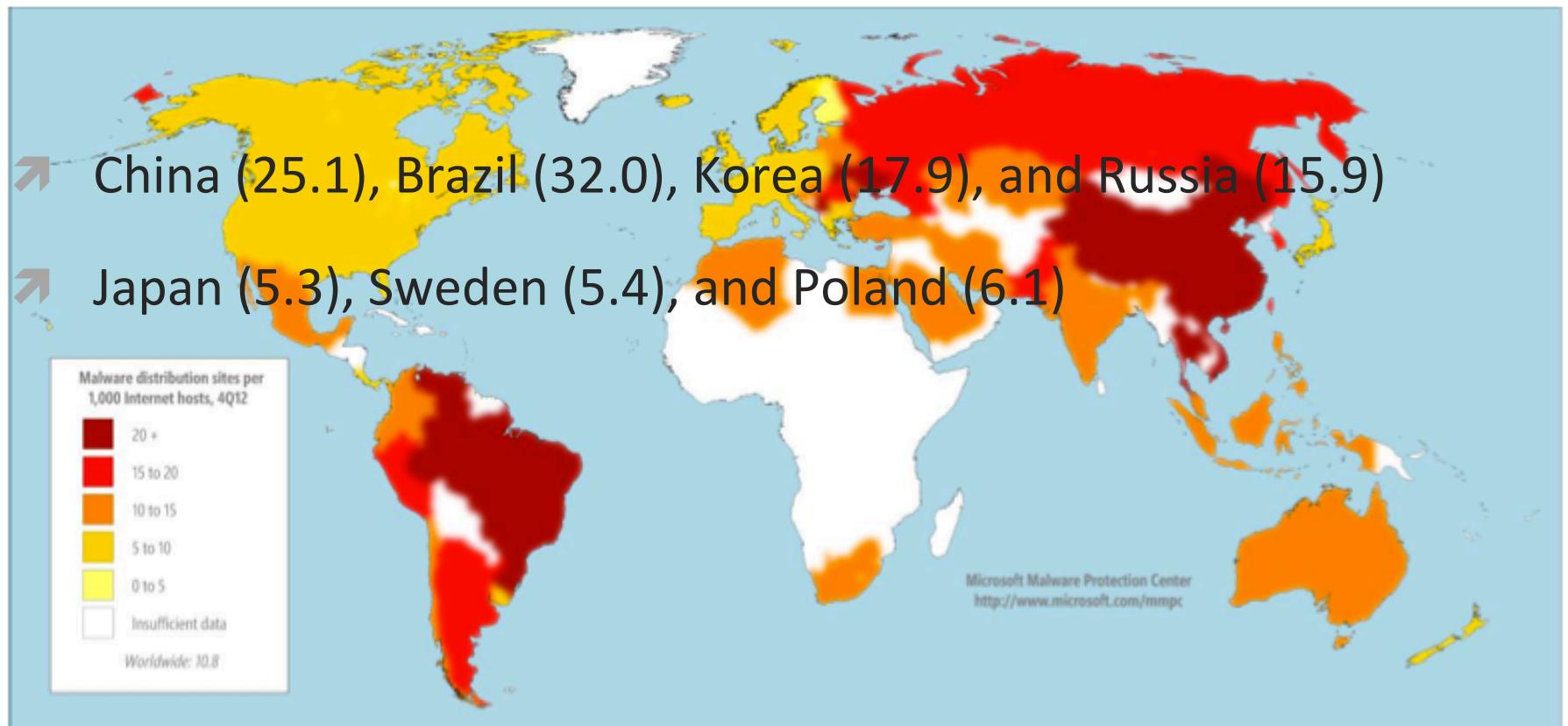
| Error | Details | Status |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Read time of hard drive clu... | The speed of hard drive can significantly affect the speed of your co... | Failed to fix |
| 38% of HDD space is unre... | Disk read error. The content of several hard disk sectors can not be ... | Failed to fix |
| Hard drive doesn't respon... | Bad command error. The system has detected a failure with one or ... | In progress... |

Below the table, a message says "Fixing issue: Hard drive doesn't respond to system commands" with "Resolved: 0" and "Failed: 2". There's a grid-based disk map showing file fragmentation. A legend below the map defines the colors: Free space (white), Files (green), Directories (blue), Fragmented (red), Moved (yellow-green), Locked (black), and Master File Table (MFT) (dark blue). A progress bar at the bottom is mostly green. At the very bottom, it says "System: Windows XP Professional" and has three status indicators: "CLICK TO ENABLE" (disabled), "INSTALLED - OK", and "INSTALLED - OK".

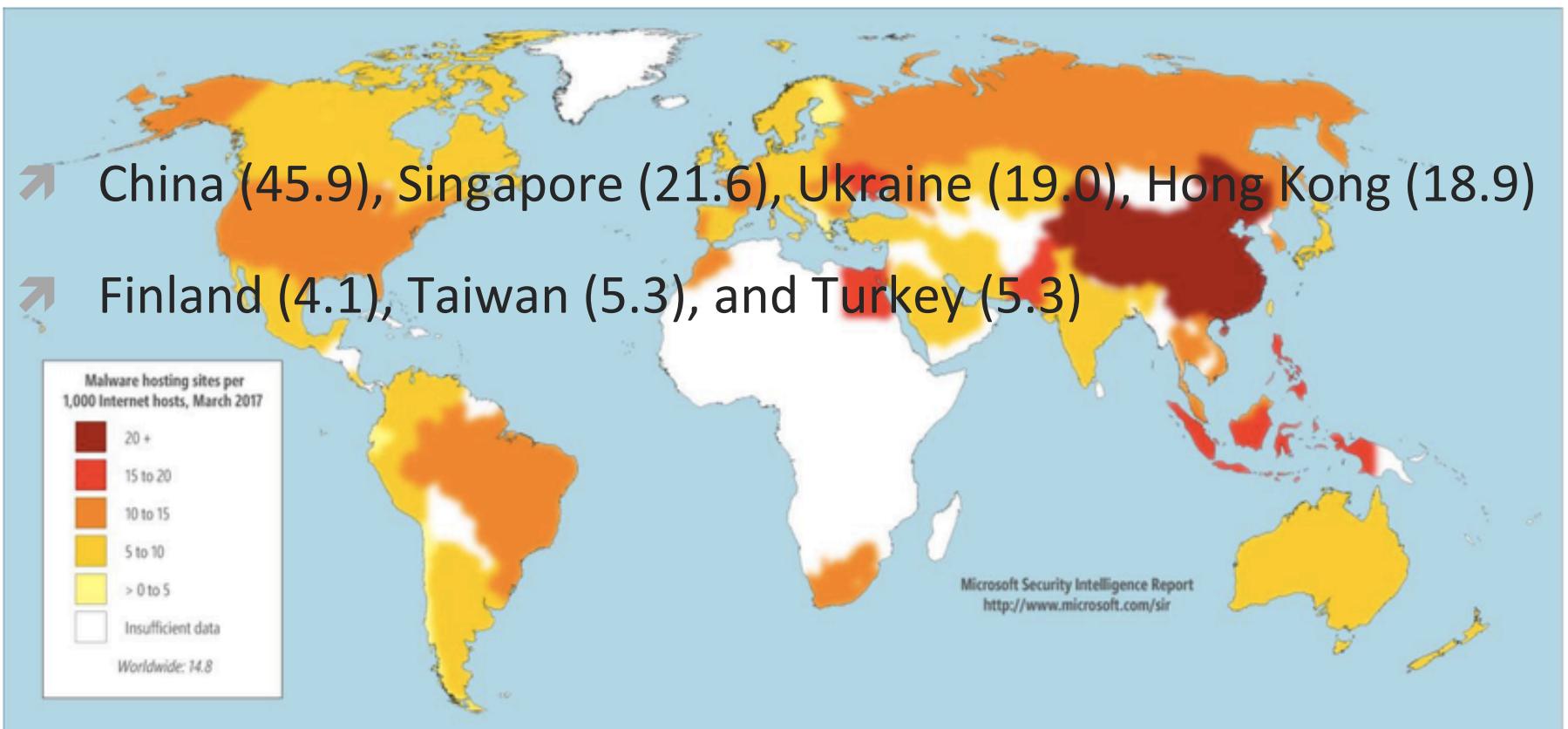
Ransomware



Malware Distribution Sites in '12



Malware Distribution Sites in '17



Drive-by-Download Website

- ↗ hosts one or more exploits that target vulnerabilities in web browsers and browser add-ons
- ↗ usually hosted on legitimate websites
 - ↗ by intrusion / posting malicious code to a poorly secured web form
- ↗ Users with vulnerable computers can be infected with malware simply by visiting such a website
- ↗ even without attempting to download anything!

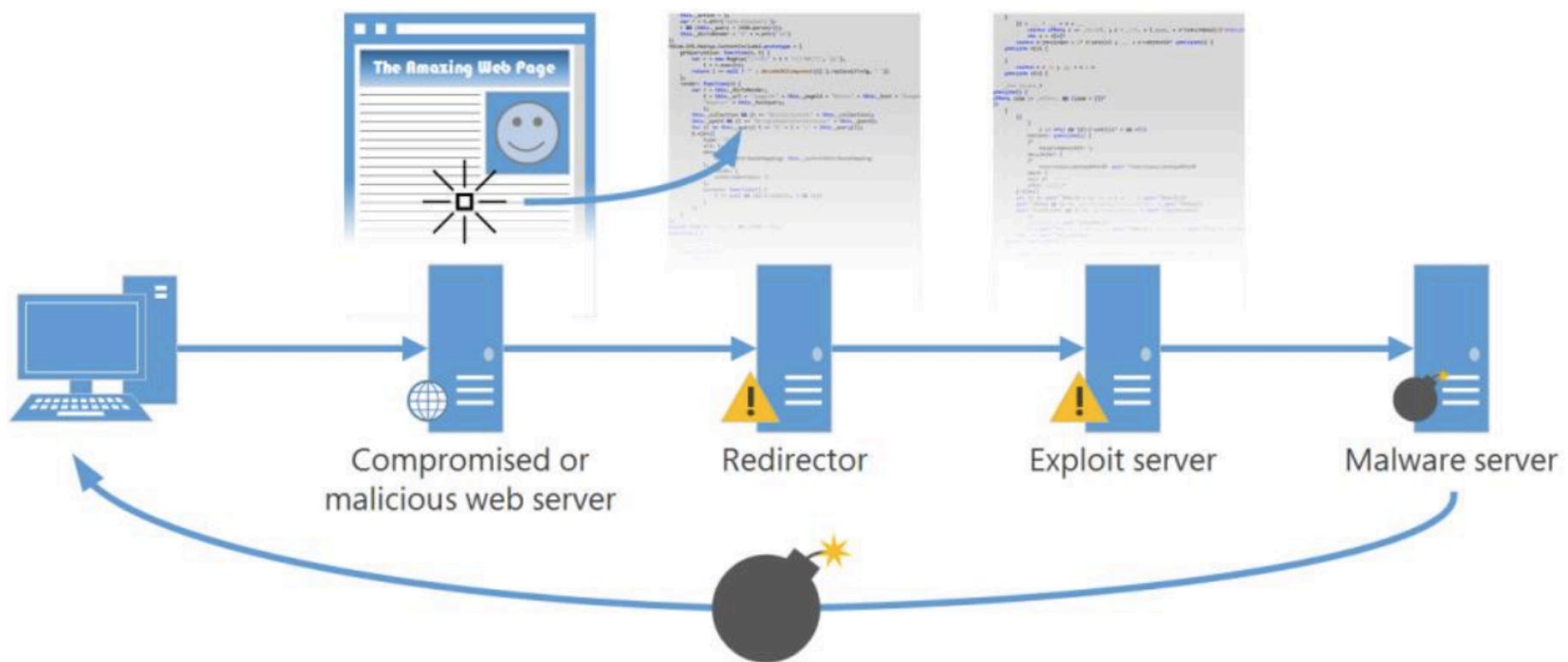
Drive-by-Download Website (Example)

1. User with vulnerable computer visits compromised web page with invisible IFrame

2. IFrame embedded in page secretly loads another page

3. The page redirects to another page containing an exploit

4. If the exploit succeeds, malware downloads from another server to the victim's computer

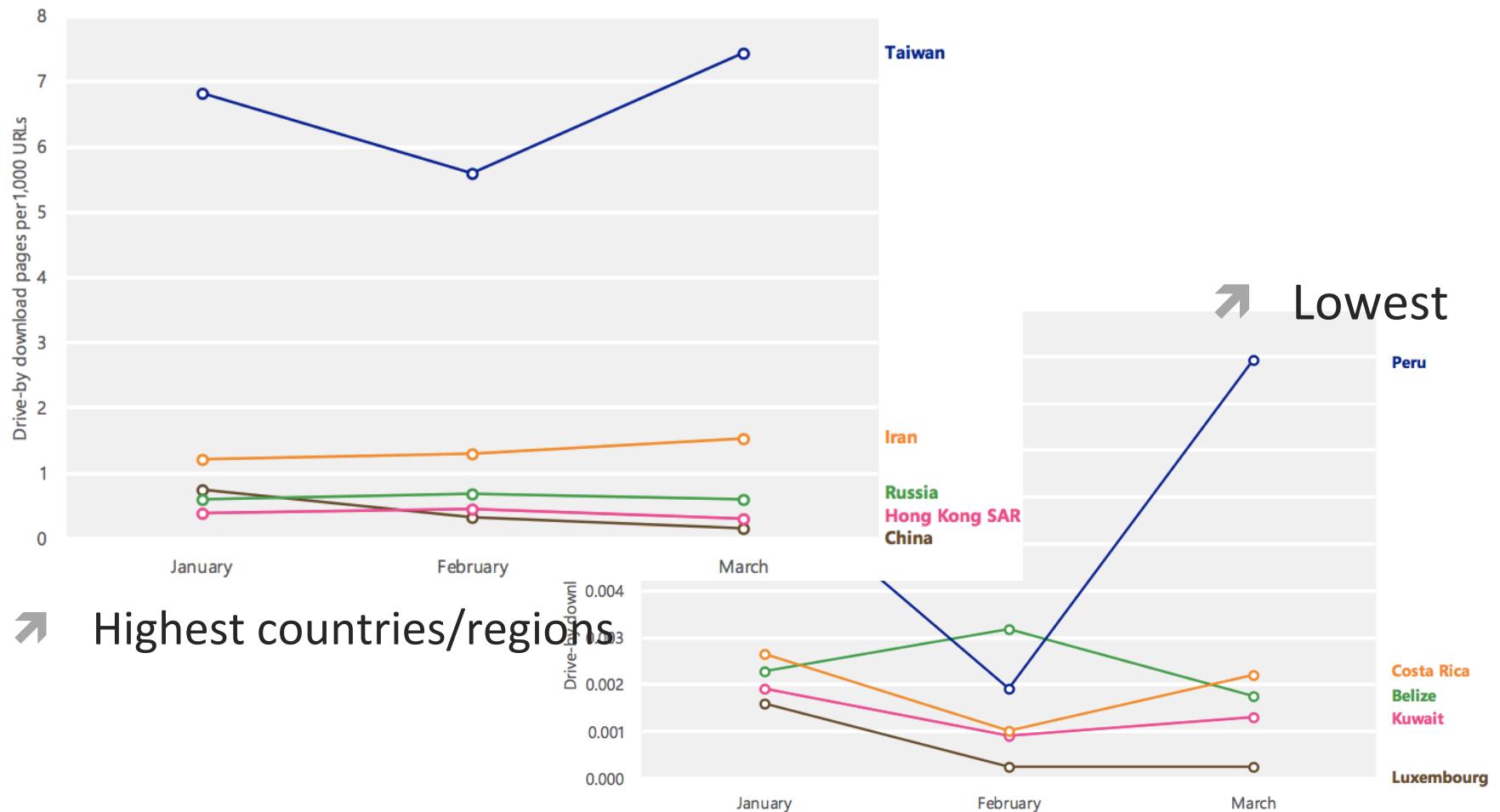


Why just warn but not just remove it?

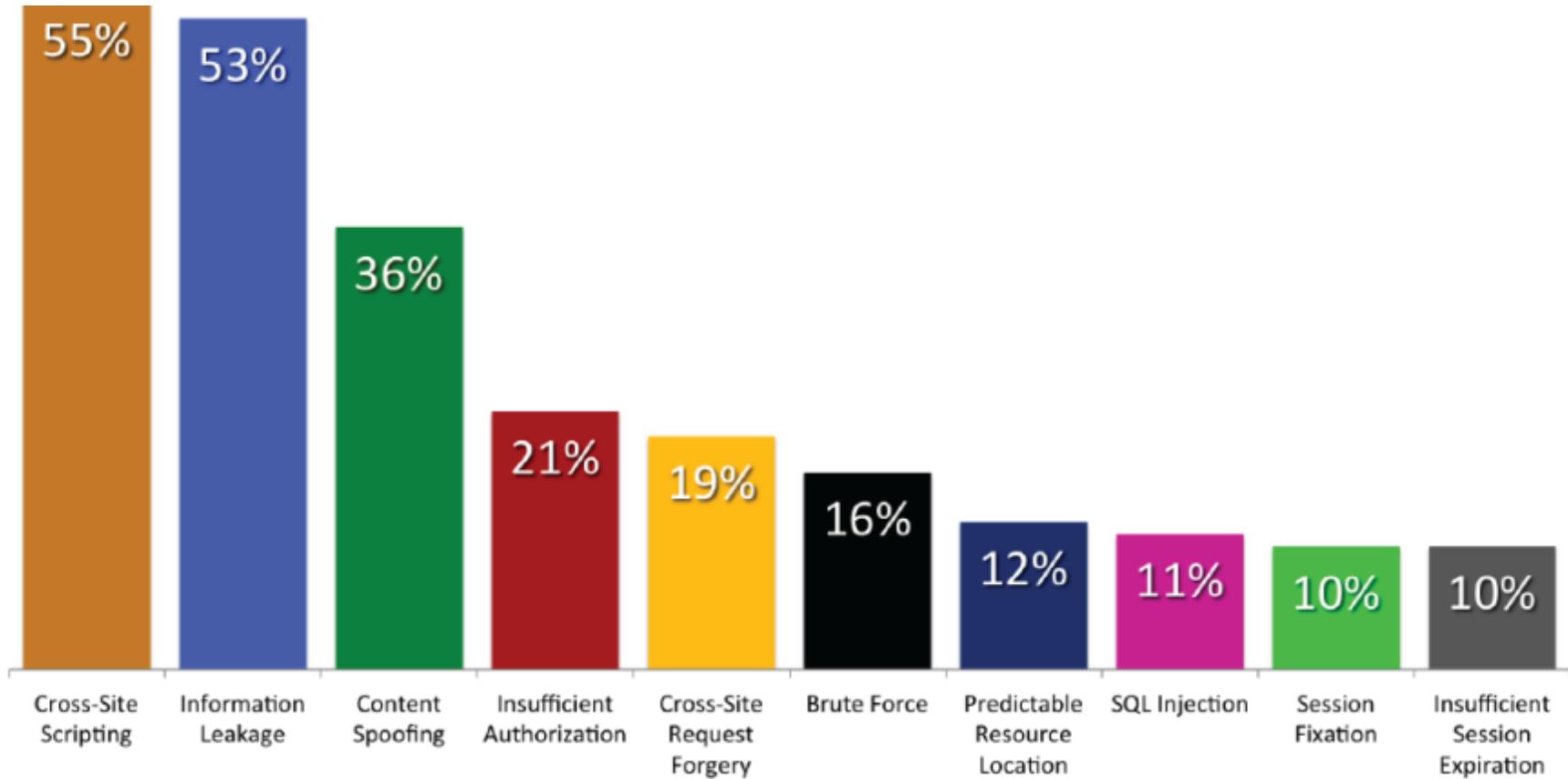
The screenshot shows a Bing search results page for the query "Provas, Aulas e Questões de Concursos ...". The first result is a link to a website titled "Novo QC! Questões de Concursos atualizadas e comentadas por professores diariamente. Milhares de Provas anteriores classificadas por Disciplinas, Assuntos, ...". Below the link, there is a snippet of text from the page: "Novo QC! Questões de Concursos atualizadas e comentadas por professores diariamente. Milhares de Provas anteriores classificadas por Disciplinas, Assuntos, ... Início · Instituições Públicas · Últimas Questões · Áreas De Formação · Áreas De Atuação". To the right of the search results, there is a "WARNING!" box. The box contains the following text:
WARNING!
This site might download malicious software that can harm your computer. [Learn More](#)
We recommend you choose another result or you can [go to this site anyway](#).
To learn more about why this URL was marked as malicious, please visit the [Bing Site Safety page](#).

the owners of compromised sites are usually victims themselves

Concentration of drive-by download pages



Top 10 Vulnerability Classes in '11



https://www.whitehatsec.com/assets/WPstatsReport_052013.pdf