

APENDIX to: Defending Against Phishing Attacks on Cloud-Systems: What Has Been Studied?

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Abstract: Phishing attacks, a cybercrime where attackers deceive victims into revealing personal and financial information, present significant threats to cloud-based systems. Securing these environments has become paramount with the growing adoption of cloud services. This study addresses the research question: "What is the overall perception of strategies in scientific publications to counter phishing attacks targeting cloud services?" Using a systematic literature review approach, the research synthesized findings from 13 selected scientific articles, focusing on technical and social defense strategies against phishing.

The key findings indicate that the human factor remains a critical vulnerability. At the same time, robust technical solutions such as advanced authentication methods, Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS), and machine learning algorithms exist. Effective phishing prevention requires a combination of technical defenses and comprehensive user education programs to enhance awareness and response to phishing attempts. The study also highlights the need to continuously adapt defense mechanisms to counter the evolving sophistication of phishing strategies. Despite the progress in technical defenses, the study suggests a greater integration of social aspects into technical solutions to mitigate the risks effectively. Future research should focus on developing targeted defense strategies for specific cloud service models and exploring the intersection of artificial intelligence and phishing to enhance security further.


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Table 1: Coding Results

Theme	Category	Code	Article
Defense Methods	Technical Methods	Software Security	(Chandra et al., 2015; Chaudhry et al., 2016; Goel et al., 2017; Vayansky and Kumar, 2018; Prasad et al., 2022)
		Communication Security	(Chaudhry et al., 2016; Wu et al., 2017)
		Network Security	(Chandra et al., 2015; Chaudhry et al., 2016; Vayansky and Kumar, 2018; Prasad et al., 2022; Althamary and El-Alfy, 2017; Gutierrez et al., 2018; Pham et al., 2018; Preethi et al., 2023)
		System and Data Protection	(Chandra et al., 2015; Chaudhry et al., 2016; Goel et al., 2017; Prasad et al., 2022; Wu et al., 2017; Althamary and El-Alfy, 2017)
		Cloud Security	(Chandra et al., 2015; Vayansky and Kumar, 2018; Wu et al., 2017; Gutierrez et al., 2018; Pham et al., 2018; Preethi et al., 2023; Allodi et al., 2019; Karthika et al., 2023; Jha et al., 2022)
	Social Methods	Communication	(Chaudhry et al., 2016; Pham et al., 2018)
		Education	(Chandra et al., 2015; Chaudhry et al., 2016; Goel et al., 2017; Vayansky and Kumar, 2018; Althamary and El-Alfy, 2017; Allodi et al., 2019)
		Awareness	(Chandra et al., 2015; Goel et al., 2017; Althamary and El-Alfy, 2017; Allodi et al., 2019)
	Algorithmical Methods	Machine Learning	(Chandra et al., 2015; Chaudhry et al., 2016; Vayansky and Kumar, 2018; Prasad et al., 2022; Wu et al., 2017; Gutierrez et al., 2018; Pham et al., 2018; Preethi et al., 2023; Karthika et al., 2023; Jha et al., 2022)
		Automated Analysis	(Chaudhry et al., 2016; Prasad et al., 2022; Karthika et al., 2023)
		Email Security	(Chaudhry et al., 2016)
		Cryptography	(Chandra et al., 2015; Karthika et al., 2023)

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Theme	Category	Code	Article
Evaluation	Criteria	Performance	(Chaudhry et al., 2016; Vayansky and Kumar, 2018; Prasad et al., 2022; Wu et al., 2017; Althamary and El-Alfy, 2017; Gutierrez et al., 2018; Preethi et al., 2023; Pham et al., 2018; Karthika et al., 2023; Jha et al., 2022)
		Efficiency	(Chandra et al., 2015; Wu et al., 2017; Gutierrez et al., 2018; Preethi et al., 2023)
		Reliability	(Chaudhry et al., 2016; Preethi et al., 2023; Karthika et al., 2023)
		User Behavior	(Chaudhry et al., 2016; Goel et al., 2017; Vayansky and Kumar, 2018; Althamary and El-Alfy, 2017)
Challenges	Technical Challenges	Machine Learning Challenges	(Prasad et al., 2022; Gutierrez et al., 2018; Preethi et al., 2023; Karthika et al., 2023; Jha et al., 2022)
		Cloud Security	(Chandra et al., 2015; Prasad et al., 2022; Wu et al., 2017; Althamary and El-Alfy, 2017; Gutierrez et al., 2018; Pham et al., 2018; Preethi et al., 2023; Jha et al., 2022)
		Blockchain	(Karthika et al., 2023)
		Traditional Methods	(Chandra et al., 2015; Wu et al., 2017; Althamary and El-Alfy, 2017; Gutierrez et al., 2018; Pham et al., 2018; Preethi et al., 2023; Jha et al., 2022)
	Social Challenges	User-Related Challenges	(Goel et al., 2017; Prasad et al., 2022; Karthika et al., 2023)
		Education and Training	(Goel et al., 2017)
		Cognitive Limitations	(Goel et al., 2017)
		Psychological Factors	(Goel et al., 2017; Vayansky and Kumar, 2018)
		Individual and Cultural Differences	(Goel et al., 2017)

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