

Heckers Hall  
VIRUS

DU  
antivirus

Worm BackDoor

Trojan

Inon Beydha Lukman, Ph.D.

WORM

Worm Mac

# INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY

A discipline that protects the

☺ **C**onfidentiality,

☺ **I**ntegrity and

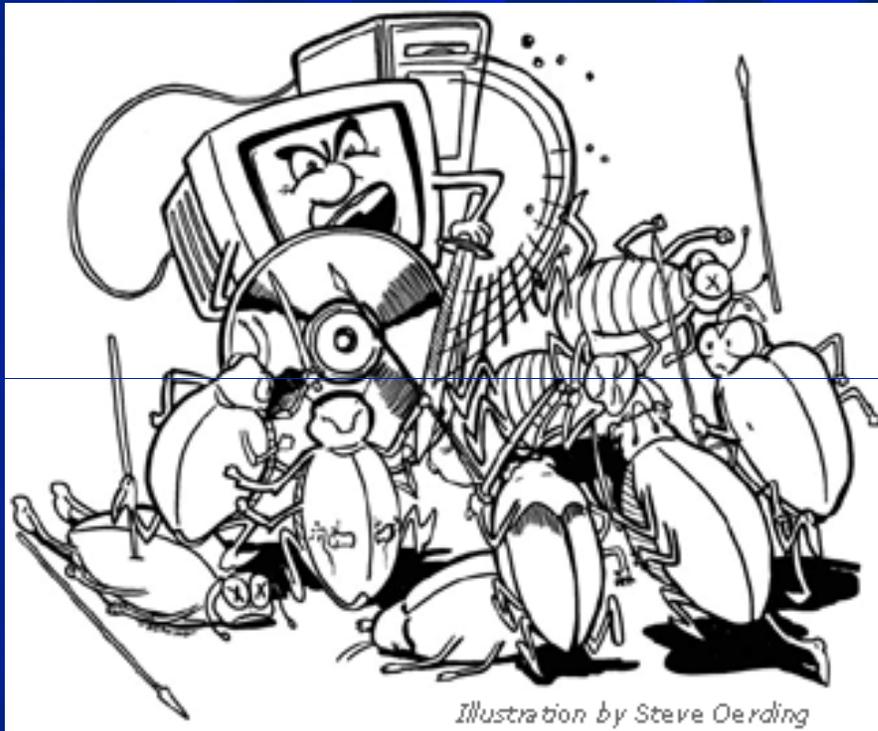
☺ **A**vailability

of information and information  
services



aka: Network Security, Computer  
Security, Information  
Assurance, Cyber Warfare

# Cyber Warfare



Sides have been taken:

By June 2006, 180,292 unique computer viruses had been identified. \*\*

There are approximately 150-250 new viruses identified every month \*

\* Source: Cybercrime by Steven Furnell (2002) p 154

\*\* Source: (2006) [www.sophos.com](http://www.sophos.com)

# Threats: Illicit Activities



Hackers: enjoy intellectual challenges of overcoming software limitations and how to increase capabilities of systems

Crackers: illegally break into other people's secure systems and networks

Cyber Terrorists: threaten and attack other people's computers to further a social or political agenda

# Motivation for Hackers:

☺ The challenge... 'because it's there!'

☺ Ego

☺ Espionage

☺ Ideology

☺ Mischief

☺ Money (extortion or theft)

☺ Revenge

**21 January 2003**

**Two years jail for UK virus writer who infected 27,000 PCs**

**Simon Vallor, the twenty-two year old web designer from North Wales who, in December 2002, pleaded guilty to writing and distributing three computer viruses, was today sentenced at Southwark Crown Court, London to a two year custodial sentence. His viruses - [Gokar](#), [Redesi](#) and Admirer – were proven to have infected 27,000 PCs in 42 countries.**



**"Vallor's actions were comparable to those of a vandal gaining illegal entry to businesses across the world and then interfering with thousands of their PCs. His sentence reflects the severity of his crime and it's reassuring to computer users that the UK courts are treating cybercriminals on a par with more traditional offenders," said Graham Cluley, senior technology consultant, Sophos Anti-Virus. "Around 800 new viruses are cropping up each month - this level of activity requires a lot of virus writers. Perhaps Vallor's sentence will focus some minds and make virus writers think twice before unleashing their malicious code."**

**Source: [www.sophos.com](http://www.sophos.com)**

# Threats: Illicit Activities



Malware Writers: responsible for the creation of malicious software

Samurai: hackers hired to legally enter secure computer/network environments

'Phreakers': Focus on defeating telephone systems and associated communication technologies

# Threats: Illicit Activities



'Phishing': sending out 'scam' e-mails with the criminal intent of deceit and extortion

Spam: unsolicited and/or undesired bulk e-mail messages, often 'selling' a product (See also SPIM – targeting of instant messaging services)

Zombie Computers: Yours?

# Real Time Analysis

Spam

# Zombie BotNets

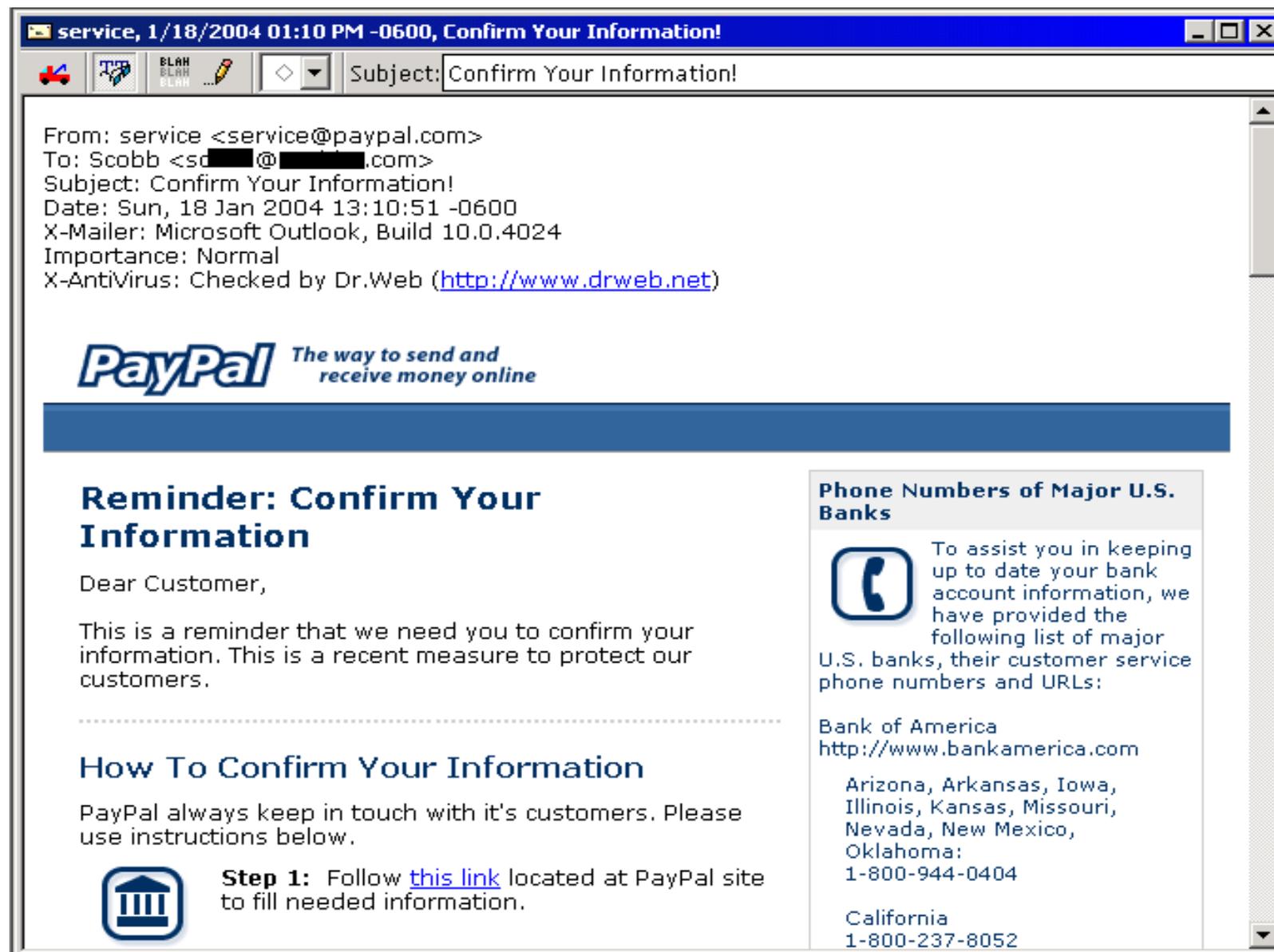
**Botnet** is a jargon term for a collection of software robots, or 'bots, which run autonomously. This can also refer to the network of computers using distributed computing software.

While the term "botnet" can be used to refer to any group of bots, the word is generally used to refer to a collection of compromised machines (zombies) running programs, usually referred to as worms, Trojan horses, or backdoors, under a common command and control infrastructure. A botnet's originator (aka "bot herder") can control the group remotely, and usually for nefarious purposes such as the sending of mass spam.

Source: [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

# Phishing

Phishing is a technique used by strangers to "fish" for information about you, information that you would not normally disclose to a stranger, such as your bank account number, PIN, and other personal identifiers such as your National Insurance number. These messages often contain company/bank logos that look legitimate and use flowery or legalistic language about improving security by confirming your identity details.



**Phishing example**

## **Exercise 1**

**What do you think are the characteristics of Hackers?**

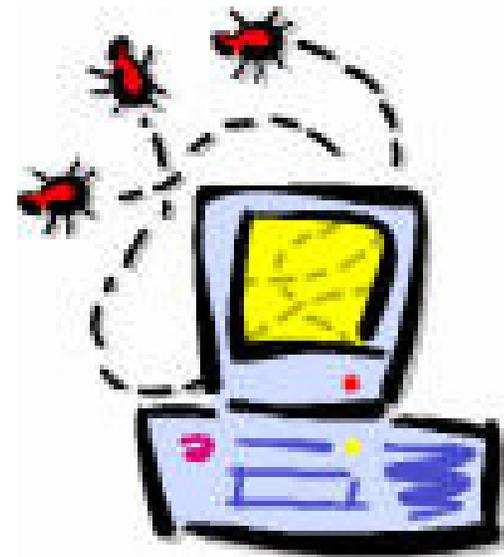
# Hacker Characteristics

- ☺ Predominantly male
- ☺ Aged from mid-teens to mid-twenties
- ☺ Lacking in social skills
- ☺ Fascination or obsession with computers
- ☺ Underachiever in other areas who sees computing as a means of being important or powerful

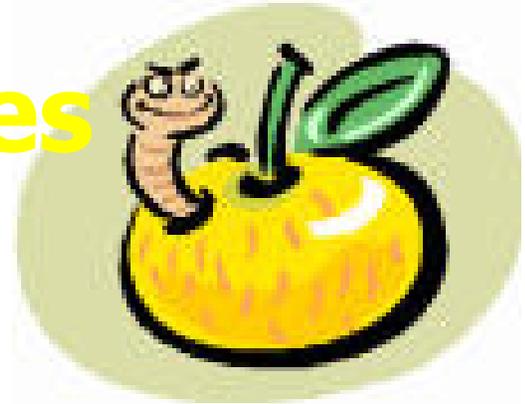
# Threats: MALWARE



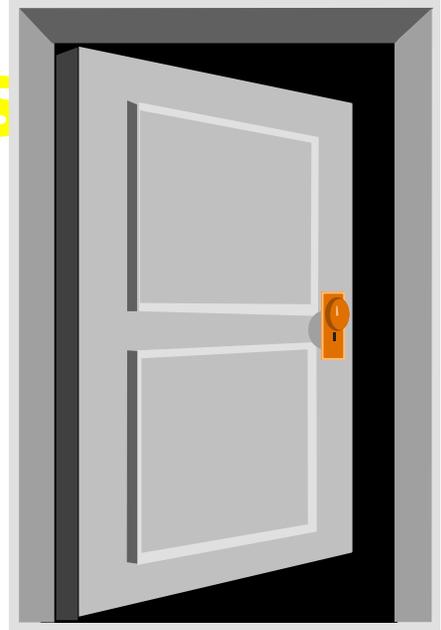
# Malware Types



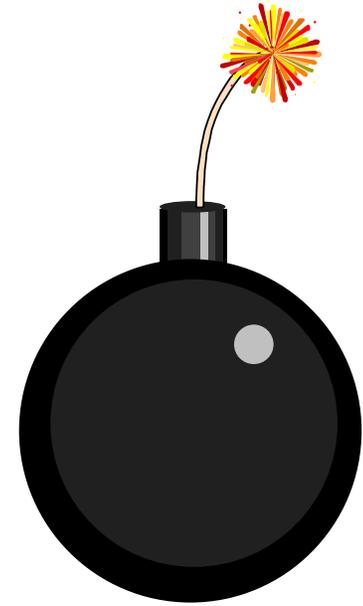
# Malware Types



# Malware Types

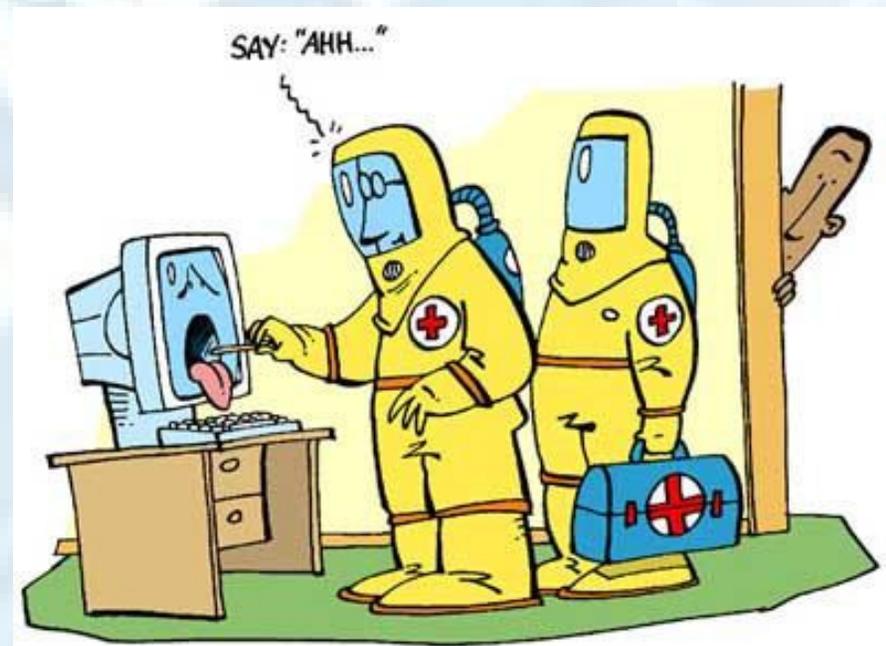


# Malware Types



## Exercise 2

**What do you think motivates Malware writers to create and unleash these attacks?**



# Malware Writer Motivations

- ☺ To see how far the virus can spread
- ☺ To cause damage and destruction to a targeted individual or organisation
- ☺ To achieve a feeling of superiority/power
- ☺ To leverage some form of personal gain
- ☺ To provide a 'lesson' in Internet security
- ☺ To conduct an experiment

Source: Cybercrime by Steven Furnell (2002) p 150

# Threats: DEFACING WEBSITES



Hackers can leave their 'graffiti' on other people's websites. Many sites have fallen foul of this activity:

☺ FBI and CIA

☺ NASA

☺ British Labour and Conservative Parties

☺ New York Times



# Threats: DEFACING WEBSITES



# Threats: DOMAIN HACKING



Pro-U.S. message replaces Aljazeera.net | CNET News.com - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Freeserve

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Address http://news.com.com/1200-1025-994369.html

## Pro-U.S. message replaces Aljazeera.net

By [Robert Lemos](#)  
Staff Writer, CNET News.com  
March 27, 2003, 3:55 PM PT

**update** Visitors to both the Arabic and English versions of the Al-Jazeera Web site on Thursday were greeted with an American flag and a pro-U.S. message, the work of an apparent online vandal.

The controversial Middle Eastern news service was the victim of a domain hijacking. The actual defacement appeared on a free Web site service provided by NetWorld Connections. Technically known as a "redirect," the hack caused Web browsers that attempted to go to [www.aljazeera.net](http://www.aljazeera.net)--as well as the English-language site--to be surreptitiously redirected to the content hosted on NetWorld's servers.



Visitors to the Arabic and English versions of the Al-Jazeera Web sites were greeted with this message Thursday.

The NetWorld service detected a spike in traffic early Thursday morning, and an e-mail from a security specialist confirmed that visitors to Al-Jazeera were being redirected to NetWorld's service, said Ken Bowman, CEO of the Salt Lake City company.

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Defacement (vandalism) - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Address [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Defacement\\_\(vandalism\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Defacement_(vandalism)) Go Links

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The Free Encyclopedia

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# Defacement (vandalism)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

 **This page has been temporarily protected from editing to deal with vandalism.** Please discuss changes on the [talk page](#) or [request unprotection](#). You may use `{{editprotected}}` on the [talk page](#) to ask for an administrator to make an edit for you.

In common usage, to **deface** something refers to the act of marking or removing the part of an object (especially images, be they on the page, in illustrative art or as sculpture) designed to hold the viewers attention. Example acts of defacement could include scoring a book cover with a blade, splashing paint over a painting in a gallery, smashing the nose of a sculpted bust. [Iconoclasm](#) led to the defacement of many religious artworks.

In computing, [website defacement](#) is usually the substitution of the original [home](#)

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toolbox

start | Internet Explorer | Microsoft PowerPoint | VirusScan On-Access... | 11:09

## A final word:

**Treat your password like you  
treat your toothbrush.  
Never give it to anyone else  
to use, and change it every  
few months.**

