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PREVENTING BOTNETS BY SPOT FILTER METHOD

DNYANESHWAR SHINDE & PRASHANT SAWANT

Department of Computer Engineering, Pillai HOC College of Engineering & Technology, Maharashtra, India

ABSTRACT

A major security challenge on the Internet is the existence of the large number of compromised machines. Such machines have been increasingly used to launch various security attacks including DDoS, spamming, and identity theft. Two natures of the compromised machines on the Internet sheer volume and wide spread—render many existing security Countermeasures less effective and defending attacks involving compromised machines extremely hard. On the other hand, identifying and cleaning compromised machines in a network remain a significant challenge for system administrators of networks of all sizes. In this thesis we focus on the subset of compromised machines that are used for sending spam messages, which are commonly referred to as spam zombies. Given that spamming provides a critical economic incentive for the controllers of the compromised machines to recruit these machines, it has been widely observed that many compromised machines are involved in spamming.

KEYWORDS: Spam Zombies, Compromised Machines, Botnet, Spot Filter