



SPATIAL – TEMPORAL MODELING ON PROPAGATION OF MALWARE ON E-MAIL

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays email becomes basic service for all computers users. There are some critical threads imposed by email malware in recent years. So it necessary to Modeling the propagation dynamics of email malware becomes a fundamental technique for predicting its potential damages and developing effective countermeasures. Comparing the modern email malware with earlier version, modern email malware having two new features called reinfection and self-start. Reinfection refers to the malware behavior that the modern email malware send out malware copies whenever any healthy or infected recipients open certain files. Self-start refers to the malware behavior that an email malware starts to spread whenever compromised user computers restart or certain files are visited. In the literature several models are proposed for email malware propagation, but they did not take into account the above two features. Malware is a malicious software that disrupt the network performance, gather sensitive information, gain access to system, etc. To address this problem we introduce a virtual node in this paper. In this paper we overcome the two new features of modern email malware and more aggressive to spread in the network.

Index Terms: Email malware, network security.

1.INTRODUCTION

In real world, email is basic service for all computer users. However email malware possess critical security threads. Malware is a software designed to attack and damage, disable, or disrupt computers, computer systems, or networks. Hackers often take advantage of website security flaws, also known as vulnerabilities, to inject malware into existing software and systems with consequences that can range from the relatively begin like annoying pop-up windows in a web browser to the severe, including identity theft and financial ruin. A malware email is sent to the victim and appears like as though it was sent by somebody the recipients trusts. Once the victim click the malicious hyperlinks or malicious attachment then the computer will be

compromised, and the compromised computer will start to infect new targets found in its email address list immediately. For example the compromising computer users that the received mails with malicious hyperlinks and attachments were from the trusted source. Current research on email malware focuses on modeling the propagation dynamics which is a fundamental technique for developing countermeasures to reduce email malware's spreading speed and prevalence. There are few works reported to model email malware propagation. Previous works assume that the user infected and send email malware copies only once, no matter whether or not the user visits a malicious hyperlink or attachment again. However the modern email malware is farmore aggressive to spread in network the before by introducing two new propagation features. First feature is reinfection

i.e., an infected users send out the malware copies whenever the user visits the malware hyperlinks or attachments. Second feature is self-start i.e., a user sends out malware copies when certain events are triggered. In previous works they did not take the two new features into account, and hence cannot accurately estimate the propagation of modern email malware. In this paper we try to overcome these features and reduce the propagation speed.

II. RELATED WORKS:

There have been substantial efforts in modeling the propagation dynamics of Internet malware in the last decade. First, to model the epidemic spreading on topological networks, early researchers adopt differential equations to present the propagation dynamics of malware. However, as discussed in [3], the differential models [20], [32], and [34] greatly overestimate the spreading speed due to the “homogeneous mixing” assumption. Additionally, Zhou et al. [3] and GAO Et Al. [5] on simulations to model the spread of email malware. Their simulation models avoid the “homogeneous mixing” problem but cannot provide analytical propagation studies. The works [4], [8], [21], [23] propose mathematical models, which have captured the accurate topological information. Wen et al. [8] further addressed the temporal dynamics and the spatial dependence problem in the propagation modeling.

However, all these models cannot present the reinfection and self-start processes of modern email malware. The Works in [21], [22], [23] focus on threshold conditions for malware fast extinction on the Internet. Their works study the final stable state of epidemic spread based on SIS models, whereas we study the transient propagation dynamics of modern email malware.

Second, there are some works which characterize the propagation dynamics of isomorphic malware, such as P2P malware [33], mobile malware [36], [37] and malware on online social networks [28], [29]. R. Thomas and M. Coates [33] adopt differential equations to present the propagation of P2P malware through a P2P network. The models [36], [37] are proposed for the mobile environment by presuming nodes meet each other with a probability. These works assume all individual devices are homogeneously mixed, and thus, they are unlikely to work in the real mobile environment. The models [28], [29] present the propagation of online social malware by simulations. Since these models [28], [29], [33], [36],

[37] are based on no reinfection, they cannot be adopted to present the propagation of modern email malware.

III. EXISTING SYSTEM:

Choosing email as the spreading carrier of malware is not a new technique in the last decade. Early versions of email malware, compromised user will send out malware emails only once, after which the user will not send out any further mail. But the modern emails malware has two features. In the existing system they are taken account the two new feature. They are not giving any spreading procedure. However, modern email malware is far more aggressive in spreading throughout the email network. We characterize its propagation with two kinds of new mechanism, namely reinfection and self-start.

3.1 Disadvantages:

- ❖ Previous technology does not consider the spreading procedure.
- ❖ Malwares are easily spread our e-mail and as well as local system also.

4. PROPOSED SYSTEM:

We propose a new analytical model to capture the interactions among the infected email users by asset of difference equations, which together describe the overall propagation of the modern email malware. We introduce a new concept of virtual node to address the underestimation in previous work, which can represent the situation of user sending out one more round of malware copies each time this user gets infected. Generally it is common for the malware email to reuse the themes but with slight variations on the body of the message and the attachments names. This trick increases the possibility for a user to be infected and particularly prompts the spreading efficiency of the modern reinfection email malware.

4.1. VIRTUAL NODE:

For modern email malware recall that the compromised user may send out malware email copies to neighbors every time the user visits those malware hyperlinks and attachments. Malware e-mails are sent out when certain events like computer restart are triggered. We introduce the new node called the virtual node to denote the possible spreading if user visits the second malware email. We also use the virtual node to denote the

possible spreading if user visits the third malware email. Nodes and topology information are the basic elements for the propagation of modern email malware. A node in the topology represents a **user in the email network**. All nodes in networks are initially susceptible. Since infected users will send out malware copies where they are compromised, node i transits from the susceptible state to the active state after the user of node i gets infected. The infection probability is denoted by $v(i, t)$. The user is infectious at the active state. When a user is infected but not infected the node transits to the dormant state. The virtual node can store the characteristics and behavior of malicious node when the hyperlinks are clicked or the malicious attachments are opened. Generally the malicious attachments appear like they are from the recipients who are trust to the users.

4.2. Advantages:

- ❖ To control the malware spreading in email.
- ❖ Using virtual node to dodge the malware.
- ❖ Especially designed for worm and macro viruses

5. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE:

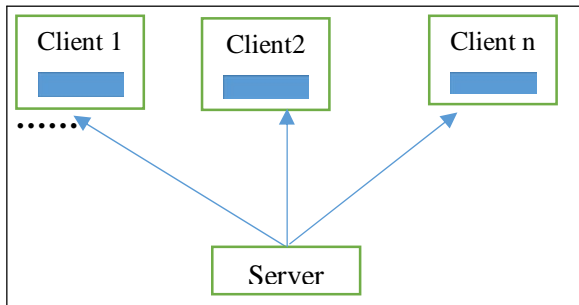


Fig1.1:e-mail client server model

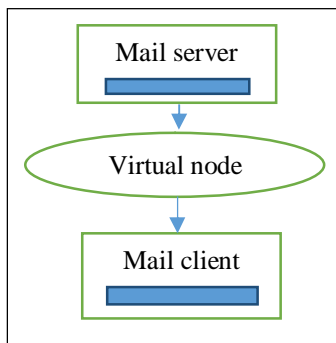


Fig1.2:Access mail through virtual node

6. NATURE OF WORK:

The proposed system considers the two new features of the modern email malware. The virtual node can detect the malicious attachment. The virtual node can store the behavior and characteristics of the malware and update. If any new malware comes when a user clicks the hyperlink or opens a malicious attachment, then the virtual node can store this. The proposed model has four modules. They are as follows:

- ❖ Network formation.
- ❖ Attacker performance.
- ❖ Detection of malicious user.
- ❖ Data transfer through virtual node.

7. MODULES DESCRIPTION:

7.1. Network formation:

The network is formed by a set of nodes and each of them is identified by a unique ID called $N1, N2, N3 \dots Nn$. The nodes are the basic element for propagation of modern email malware. A node in the topology represents a user in the email network. The user may send mail at any time and another user opens the mail at any time.

7.2. Attacker Performance:

The malware is the malicious software that can disrupt the computer operation, gather sensitive information, gain access to the system, and disrupt the network performance. The modern email malware sends out the malware copies whenever the compromised user clicks the malicious attachment or hyperlinks.

7.3. Detection of malicious user:

The proposed system can detect the malicious hyperlinks and attachments. When the legitimate user tries to communicate to the server at the time the attacker can hack the message. The virtual node identifies them.

7.4. Data transfer through virtual node:

Virtual node can represent the situation of the user sending out one or more rounds of malware copies each time the user gets infected. The virtual node detects the malicious attachments. When the malicious attachments are transferred again it detects. This reduces the speed of propagation.

8. RESULTS:

The result obtained from the implementation using Java, WAMP server is shown below.

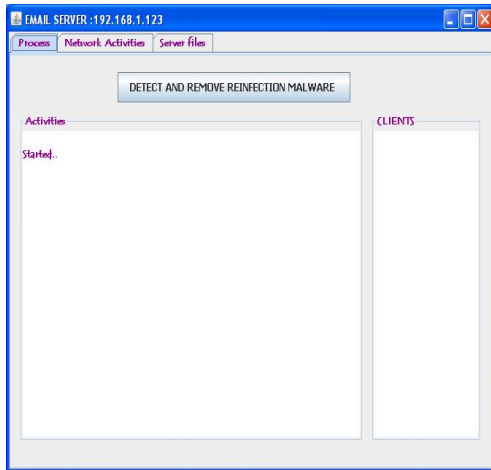


Fig8.1: Server window

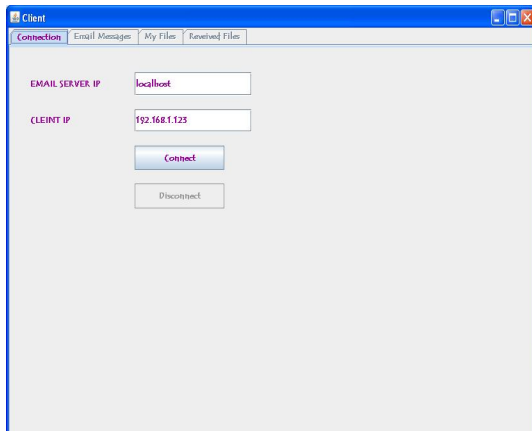


Fig8.2: Client window

9. CONCLUSION:

In this paper we propose a new model for the propagation of modern email malware. This model is able to address the two critical problems of the unsolved in previous model called reinfection and self-start. By introducing the virtual node we present the model to reduce the propagation speed and overcome the two features of modern email malware. The results are shown by implementing using java. Finally we are interested in studying the distribution of multiple copies of malware in large scale networks. We need to seek the appropriate model to address this problem in large scale networks.

10.FUTURE WORK:

In future we can implement this concept in large type viruses like as Trojans, Inkgen, Hosting viruses etc. So we can able to make the malware free network and to

avoid the lot of cybercrime activities and can be applied to large scale networks.

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