

The Bot Problem

Mike O'Reirdan, M³AAWG Co-Chairman

Ram Mohan, M³AAWG

29th October 2012

New Delhi



Panelists



- Suresh Ramasubramanian (IBM)
- Mike O'Reirdan (M³AAWG / Comcast)

What will we look at?



- How do you see the problem?
- Focus on bots / malware and consumer challenges
- Policy is key
- Brief review of global efforts
- Monetization
- Technology
- Resources
- Role of registrars
- Next steps, reports by table

Why is M³AAWG focusing on bots in India?



Rank	Country	Infections
1	India	1,536,013
2	China	1,153,704
3	Vietnam	636,706
4	Brazil	557,280
5	Turkey	427,719

Source: CBL (<http://cbl.abuseat.org/nas.html>)

.IN is the 5th most abused TLD in the world

[Source: SURBL (<http://www.surbl.org/tld>)]

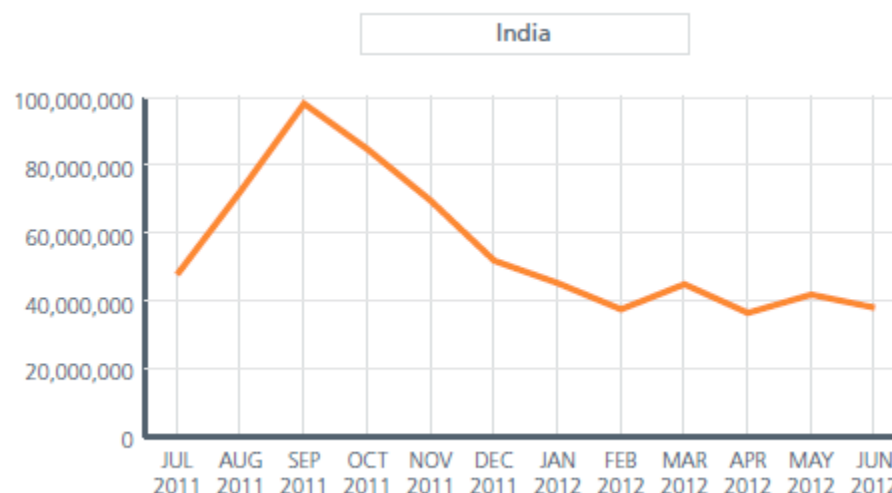
Indian ISPs among largest in global spam counts



Domain	Global Rank	Traffic	Spams/bot	% Infected
Sancharnet.in	3	782,484	1	11.665%
Airtel.in	7	146,920	0	3.674%
Tatatel.co.in	11	64,868	0	15.407%
Vsnl	17	586,026	6	1.355%

Source: CBL (<http://cbl.abuseat.org/domain.html>)

Spam Counts - India



Source: McAfee (<http://www.mcafee.com/us/resources/reports/rp-quarterly-threat-q2-2012.pdf>)

Policy is key



- May sound like a list of roles but up to regulators and policy folks to work together to ensure everyone plays their position
- Not just the role of the ISP
- ISPs core competency
 - Detection and notification, manages relationship between IP resource and subscriber
- Other players
 - Law Enforcement
 - Prosecute and lock up cyber criminals
 - OS Vendors
 - Secure operating system
 - Regular patching
 - Tools vendors
 - Tools are often overwhelmed

Global efforts

- US
 - FCC Bot Code
 - [ABCs for ISPs](#)
 - Major programs at several ISPs
 - Century Link
 - AT&T
 - [Comcast](#)
 - Cox
- Germany / Eire
 - [BotFrei.DE](#)
 - Irish Anti Botnet Initiative
 - Spreading to 14 European countries
 - EU funded

Global efforts



- Finland
 - Interesting regulator led model
 - Carrot and stick; very carrot focused
- Australia
 - [iCode](#) since 2010
 - Australian Internet Security Initiative
 - Looking at first major revision; metrics are the aim
- Japan
 - [Cyber Clean Centre](#)
 - Founded 2006
 - Wealth of resources including major section in English

Monetization



- Need financial justifications
 - ROI may need to be sought
 - Reduced churn of subscribers
 - Reduced numbers of call centre contacts
 - Spam can consume expensive bandwidth resource
- Free versus paid
 - Important not to make this seem to be an upsell for additional services
 - Need a prominent “free” remediation path
 - Often too complex
- Do your own Geek Squad approach
 - Geek Squad, large-scale consumer tech support organization; counters in computer stores and in-home support
 - Some ISPs have set up fee-based remediation services

Technology

- DNS
 - Passive DNS detection
 - Limited to bots that use DNS
 - Requires specialized intelligence on C+Cs
 - Does not capture P2P botnets
- DPI
 - Very useful to detect range of bots via signatures
 - Allows identification of malware
 - End user privacy implications
 - Depends on country attitude to DPI
- NetFlow
 - Analysis of traffic flows
 - Good for detecting botnets but not malware

Role of domain name registrars



- India-based registrars have the strongest ability to respond and curtail bad registrations:
 - Directi is one of the largest Indian reseller-based registrars, with prior abuse experience
 - Net4India is the largest retail based registrars, with a well-developed validation method
 - Mitsu is one of the fast growing registrars, with some current abuse
- Largest abuse seems to come from automated, non-verified systems
- Domains are one of the raw materials for botnets

Resources

- IETF Guide to bot remediation
 - [RFC 6561](#)
- IETF Guide to a possible notification system
 - [RFC 6108](#)
- Free data sources
 - [Team Cymru](#)
 - [Shadow Server](#)
 - Arbor Networks
- Free A/V
 - Avira
 - AVG
 - Microsoft Security Essentials
- Other free tools
 - Malwarebytes
 - Spybot
 - Adaware

DNS Changer



- FBI Operation Ghost Click
- First discovered in 2007 by private researchers
- Rove Digital
- DNS servers in the US
- Initially thought to be 4 million users infected, turned out to be less but still substantial
- November 8th 2011, 7 arrests, servers and cash seized
- DNSs run by ISC from Nov 8th 2011 to June 9th 2012
- Need to remediate end users
- Interesting statistics
 - Do nothing ISP -40%
 - Active ISP -80%

Current Indian ISP anti-bot efforts



- What are the current Indian anti-bot efforts?
- Is this seen as a priority effort for the Indian ISPs?
- What are the next steps?