

Explaining Worms and Virus



Dale Meredith

MCT | CEI | CEH | MCSA | MCSE
Cyber Security Expert

dalemeredith.com | [Twitter: @dalemeredith](https://twitter.com/dalemeredith) | [Linkedin: dalemeredith](https://www.linkedin.com/in/dalemeredith)

To expect the unexpected shows a
thoroughly modern intellect.

Oscar Wilde

What's the Difference?

Apples to Apples



What's the Difference?

Back in the day..

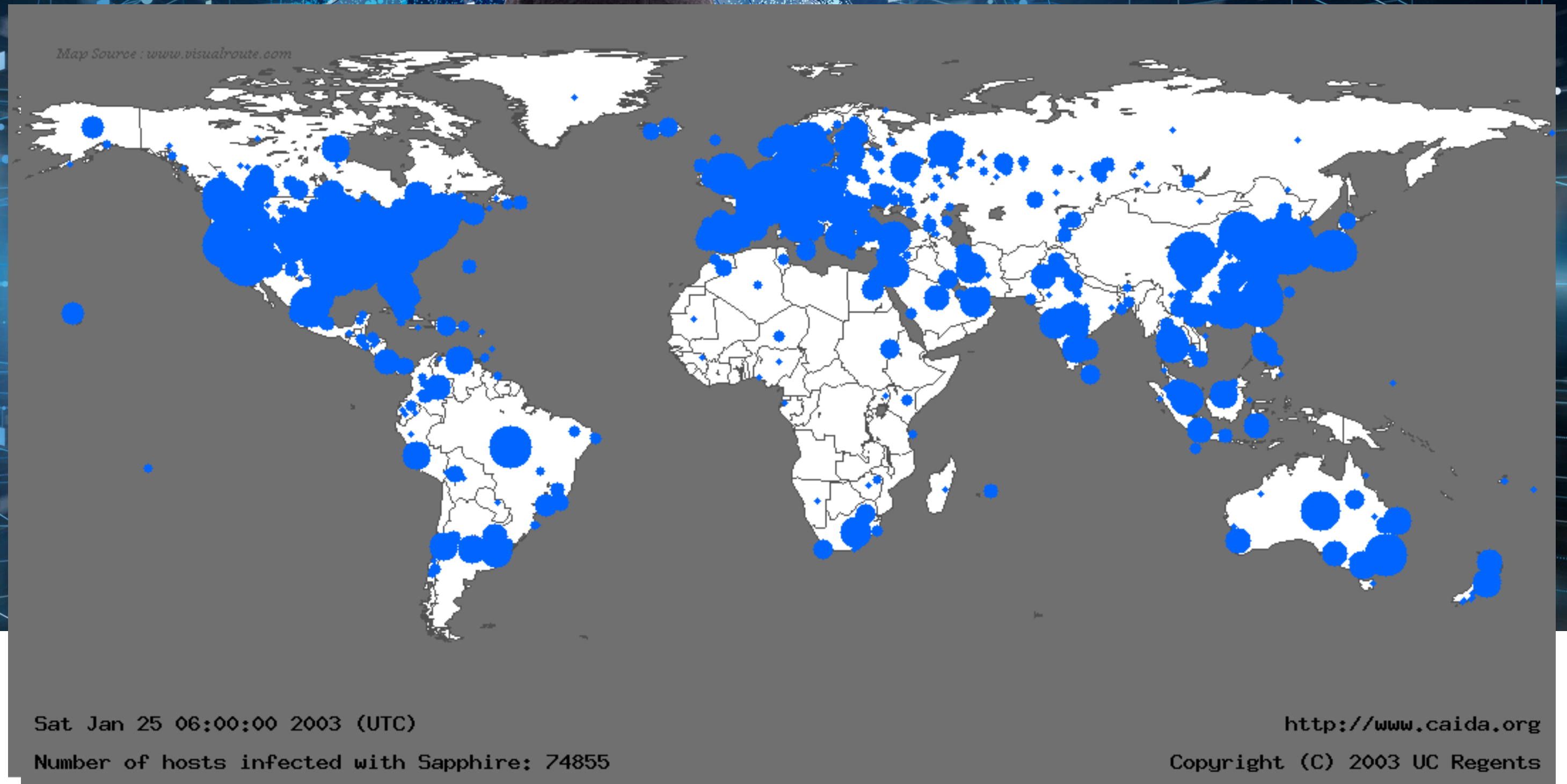


SQL Slammer

Based on PoC

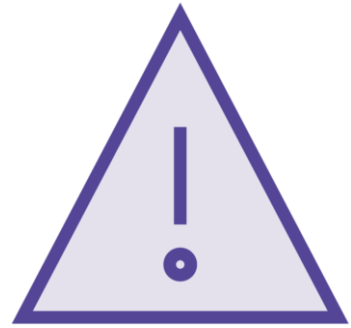
Microsoft issued a patch

Caused routers to crash..and then

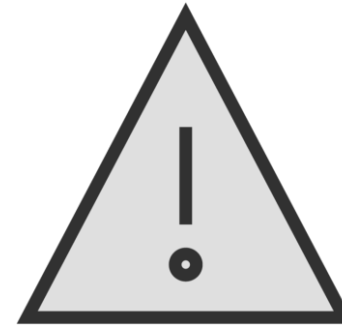


Viruses and worms are the
scourge of modern computing

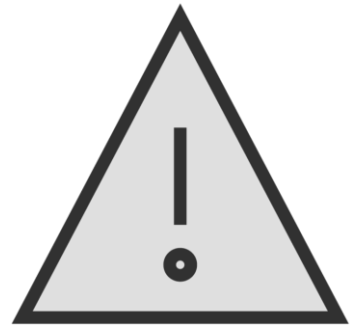
Other Characteristics of Viruses



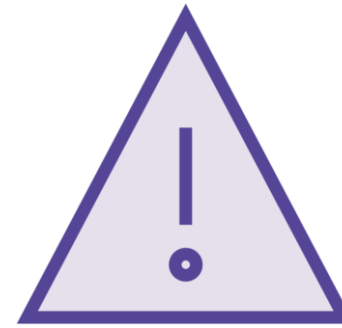
Infects other programs



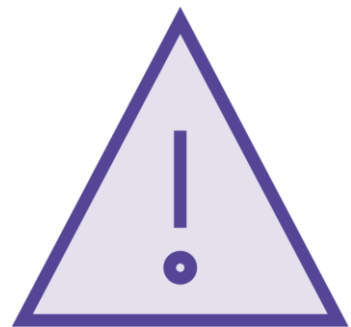
Alters data



Transforms itself



Corrupts files and programs



Encrypts itself



Replicates itself

Types of Viruses and Worms

Make the bad man go away

Types of Viruses

File



Prepending

Pending

Overwriting

Inserting

Types of Viruses

File

Cluster

Boot Sector

Back in my day..





Types of Viruses

File

Cluster

Boot Sector

Majority are distributed through PDFs

Continually rewriting itself

Types of Viruses

Cavity

Installs in unoccupied space

Types of Viruses

Cavity

Encryption

Types of Viruses

Cavity

Encryption

Camouflage

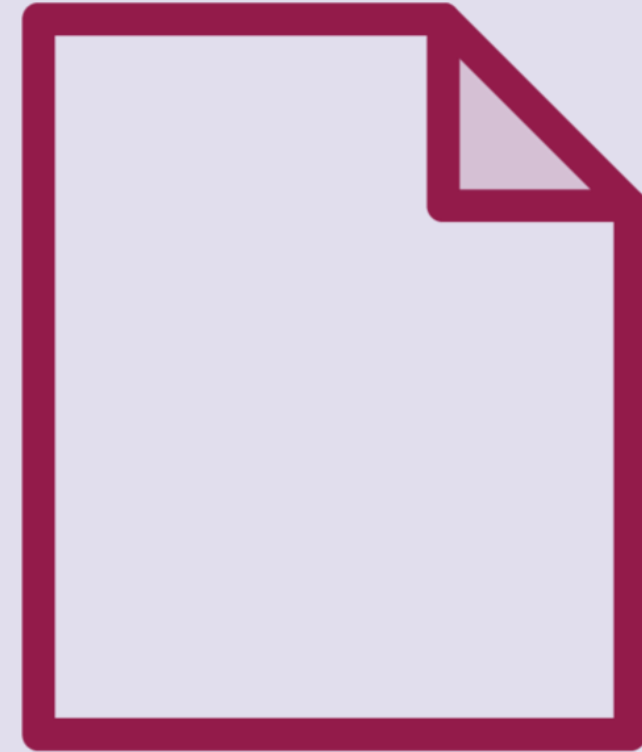
`notepad.exe = > notepad.com`



batman.com



batman.bat



batman.exe

Types of Viruses

Cavity

Encryption

Camouflage

Shell

Tunneling

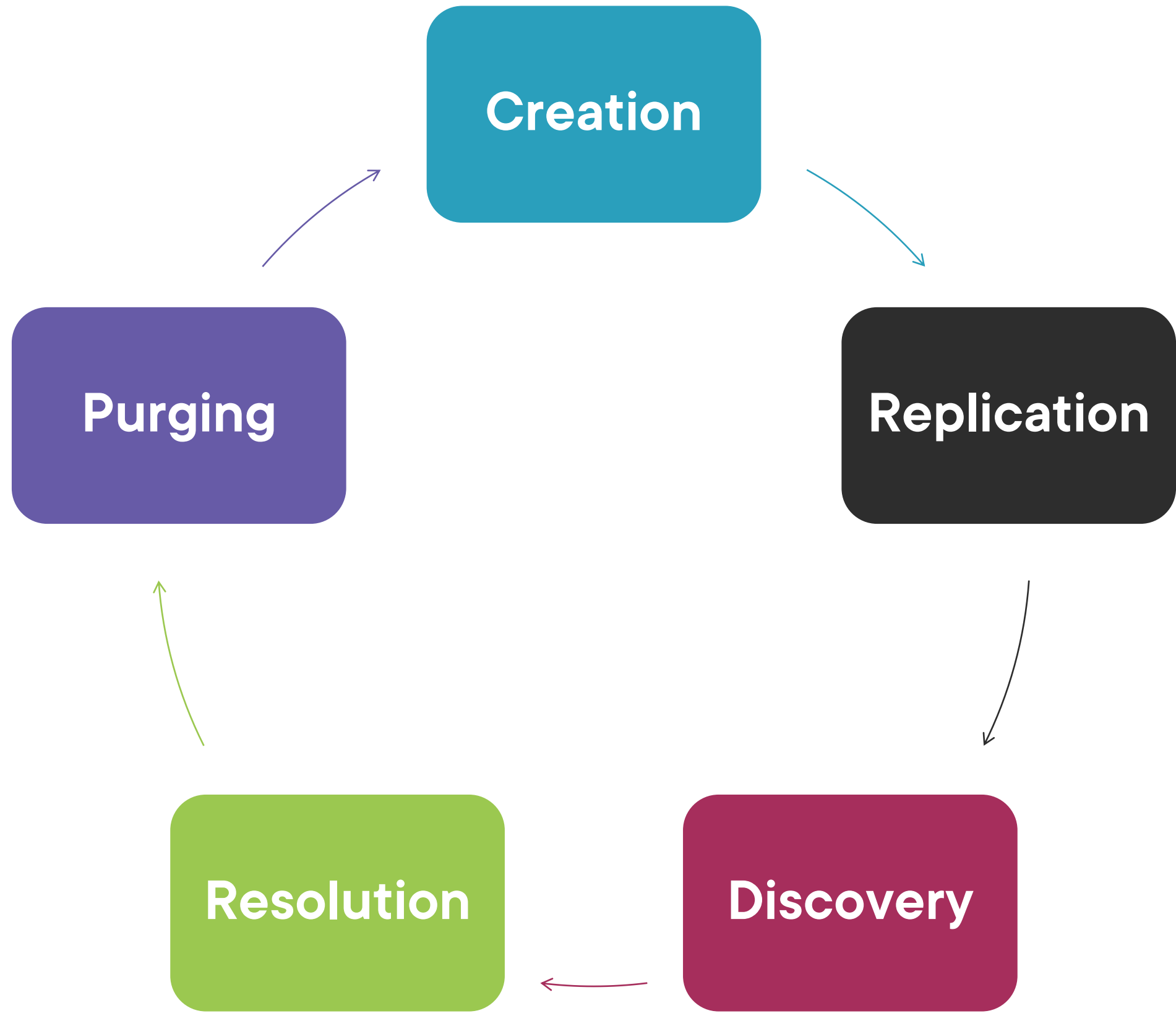
File extension

Demo



File extension

Lifecycle



Dale's Been Hacked

Set Phasers to stun!

Dale's Been Hacked



Infection Phase

Replicates and attaches

Needs an event

Needs an event

- Setup files
- Startup
- TSR

Attack Phase

Corruption begins by deleting files

Altering file content

Execute tasks and camouflage

Most viruses have been written
so that they don't execute
until they've fully spread
throughout the network

The Signs and Why



What Are the Signs?



Drive issues

Video issues

Memory issues

Apps and processes run slow

Computer freezes frequently

Files and folders are missing

Unwanted advertisements and pop-ups

Lack of storage space

Why?





Inflict damage on competitors network or computers

Vandalize intellectual property

Engage in cyber-terrorism

Distribute political messages

Realize financial benefits

Deployment

Round, Round, Get Around, I Get Around



How Does a Computer Get Infected?



**Downloading
infected files**



Pirated software



**Email
attachments**



**Not updating
OS/apps/anti-
virus**

How Does a Computer Get Infected?



Plug-ins



Compromised sites

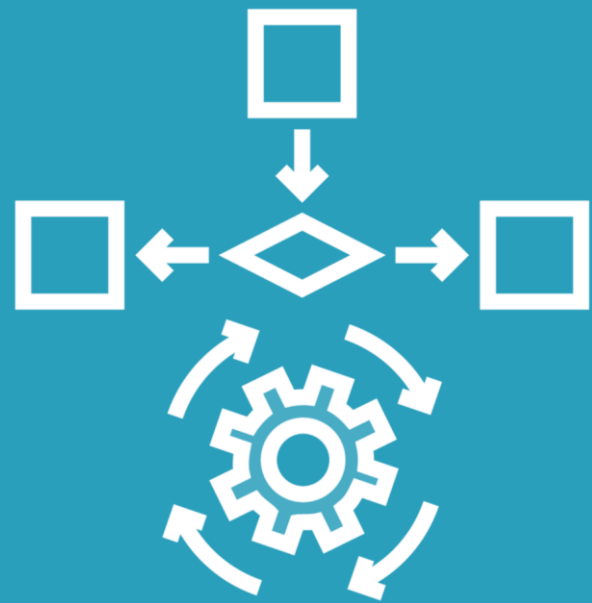


Spear-phishing sites



Click-jacking

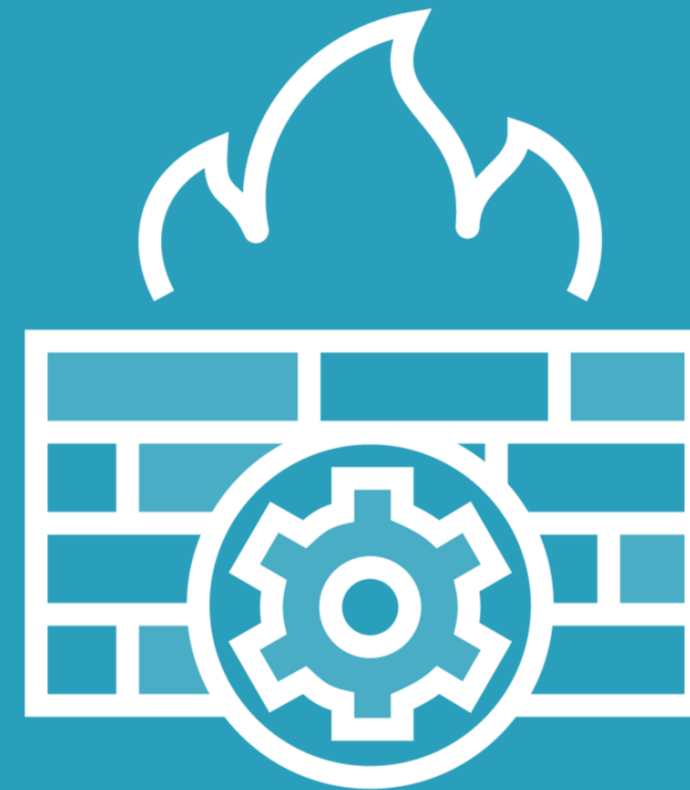
How Does a Computer Get Infected?



**Search Engine
Optimization
(SEO)**



**Incorrectly
configured
browser**



**Disabling a
firewall**



**Connecting to
an untrusted
Wi-Fi network**

Real? Fake? Does It Matter?

Trust Me - I Wouldn't Lie

IMPORTANT!!! YOUR COMPUTER IS PROBABLY INFECTED WITH A VIRUS. IN TURN, YOU HAVE SPREAD THIS VIRUS TO FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND CO-WORKERS JUST BY SENDING THEM EMAIL.

PLEASE READ AND PASS ON TO ANYONE TO WHOM YOU HAVE SENT EMAIL SINCE SEPTEMBER 11.

Why The Hoax?

Email headers

Delete legit files

Selling something



jdbgmgr

Contains virus attachments

Nothing is ever free

Learning Check

Learning Check



Virus



Overwriting



Macro



Metamorphic



Camouflage



Learning Check



File extension



Tunneling



Shell



Plugin



Cavity



Up Next:
Reviewing Fileless Malware
