

Researchers look for novel methods to defeat botnets

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Dr. Narasimha Reddy, the J.W. Runyon, Jr. '35 Professor I in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Texas A&M University, had his research featured in ACM magazine, *Communications of the ACM*.

A botnet, or robot network, is a term used to describe a collection of computers that have been compromised by a worm or Trojan horse, allowing an attacker to remotely control the infected systems. Victims are typically unaware that they are infected or that their system is being controlled remotely by a botnet administrator.

Reddy, in collaboration with his students Sandeep Yadav and Ashwath Reddy at Texas A&M and Supranamaya "Soups" Ranjan with Narus Inc., came up with a method of detecting botnets such as Conficker, Kraken and Torpig that use so-called DNS domain-fluxing for their command and control (C&C) infrastructure.

Their work, along with other researchers', was the topic of the article, "The War Against Botnets," which describes several novel methods of defeating these botnets.

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Provided by Texas A&M University

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