Scrutiny and **Evaluation** Of (Digital) **Evidence**





Nature of Computer Crimes

- Illegal Act
- Computer is used as tool or target or both
- Electronic Evidence
 - -Computer crimes
 - Physical crimes



Collection of digital evidence

- Any action during investigation should not compromise evidence
- If accessing original media is necessary, the IO responsible must be competent to do so
- All procedures should be documented and preserved in a manner verifiable by an independent third party



Compromising Evidence

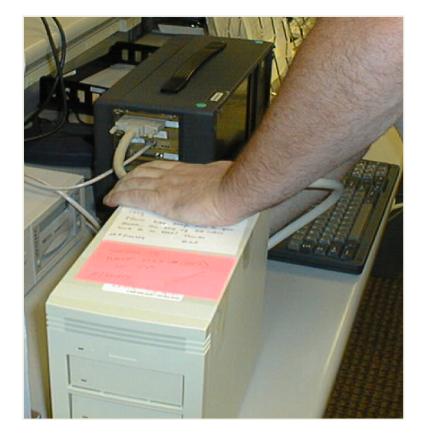
- U.S. Doorframe Case
- Logic Bombs

-Not switching a suspect computer on or off

• Admissibility



The computer forensics process



- Acquire
- Authenticate
- Analyze
- Document

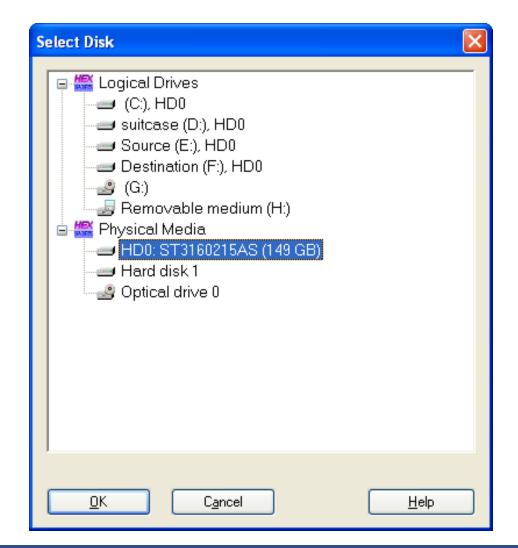


Select source medium

| Clone Disk (Copy Sectors) | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Source: medium Drive C: Destination: raw image file | Copy entire medium Start sector (source): 0 Start sector (destination): 0 Number of sectors to copy: 20482808 | | | |
| Log procedure silently (no error messages) Avoid damaged areas. Skip range: 32 | | | | |
| Write pattern for damaged source sectors: ?BAD SECTOR ? | | | | |
| Simultaneous I/O (faster, if source and destination are different physical media) | | | | |
| <u>O</u> K C <u>a</u> ncel | <u>H</u> elp | | | |



Select source medium



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Select destination for the image file

| Clone Disk (Copy Sectors) | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Source: medium Hard disk 0, ST3160215AS (149 GB) Destination: raw image file | Copy entire medium Start sector (source): 0 Start sector (destination): 0 Number of sectors to copy: 312581808 | | | |
| Log procedure silently (no error messages) Avoid damaged areas. Skip range: 32 | | | | |
| Write pattern for damaged source sectors: ?BAD SECTOR ? | | | | |
| Simultaneous I/O (faster, if source and destination are different physical media) | | | | |
| <u>O</u> K C <u>a</u> ncel | <u>H</u> elp | | | |



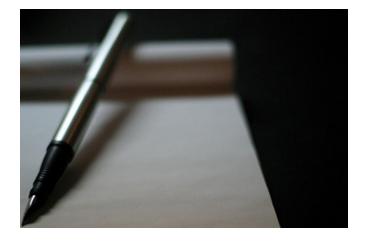
Authenticate

- Using hash functions to ensure authenticity of image
- If acquisition hash equals verification hash, image is authentic



| 🔛 WinHex - [Drive E:] | | | | | | |
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| | 000001D0 | 6B 20 65 72 72 6F 72 FF OD 0A 50 72 65 73 73 20 k errorÿ F | ress 🗸 | | | |
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Document



- A forensic examination report must
 - List softwares used & their versions
 - be in simple language
 - list the hash results
 - list all storage media numbers, model, make



Document

- Chain-of-custody log
 - ACL of people having access to collected evidence
 - Tracks evidence from source to courtroom
 - Unbroken chain-of-custody authenticates electronic evidence



Document

- The five "Ws" of chain-of-custody log
 - Who took possession of the evidence
 - What description of evidence
 - Where did they take it to
 - When time and date
 - Why purpose for taking evidence

- July 31, 1996
- The Servers of CNC department in Omega Corporation are booted
- Message flash saying file server is being fixed
- Subsequent system crash
- All programs deleted, manufacturing halts

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- No backup tapes found
- All programs and code generators destroyed
- 25, 000 products to customize 500, 000 designs affected
- 34 years of growth lost in 1 year
- Disgruntled network administrator
- Fired because of non cooperation

- Network Administrator's house searched
 - Computers, CDs, motherboards, 500 disks,
 12 hard drives, 2 formatted backup tapes
 - -Backup tapes were labeled 14/5/96 and 1/7/96
- The cause of deletion, a six line program

- 30/7/96 (Trigger Date)
- F: (Accessing the server)
- F:\LOGIN\LOGIN 12345 (first user logs in with supervisory rights and no password)
- CD\PUBLIC (gives access to the PUBLIC directory, a file system area)
- FIX.EXE /Y F:*.* (Run code, A=Yes, All files)
- PURGE F:\ /ALL



Evidence

- All items seized from the suspect's house: CDs, HDD, formatted Back up tapes, etc.
- But what is needed to establish guilt beyond reasonable doubt?
 - Correct procedure having been followed by IO
 - The function of the 6 line program (Expert Opinion)
 - The fact that it could only have been installed by the suspect



Internet based crimes

- DNS spoofing
- Web defacement
- FTP attacks
- Bogus Websites
- Web spoofing
- Website based launch of malicious code, cheating and fraud

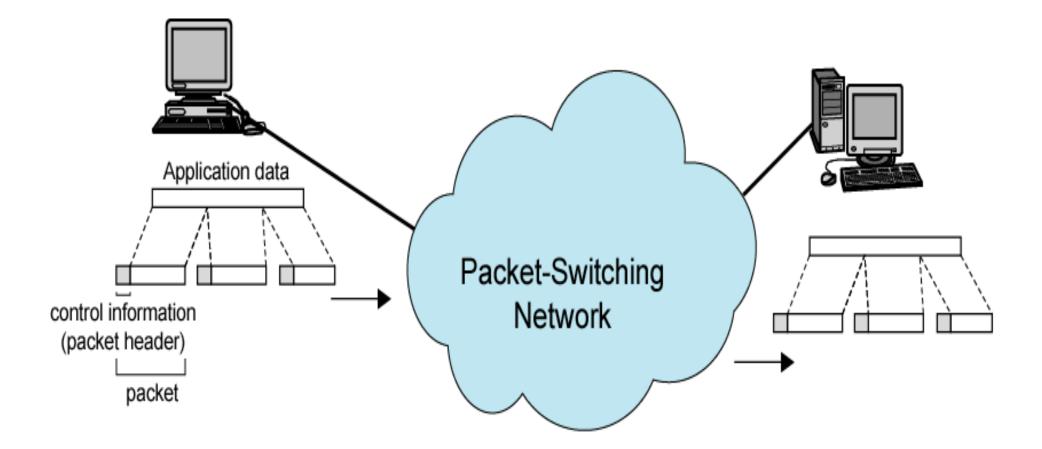


Internet Concepts

- Information travels in data packets
- Files get broken at their source
- Files are reassembled and "joined" at the destination

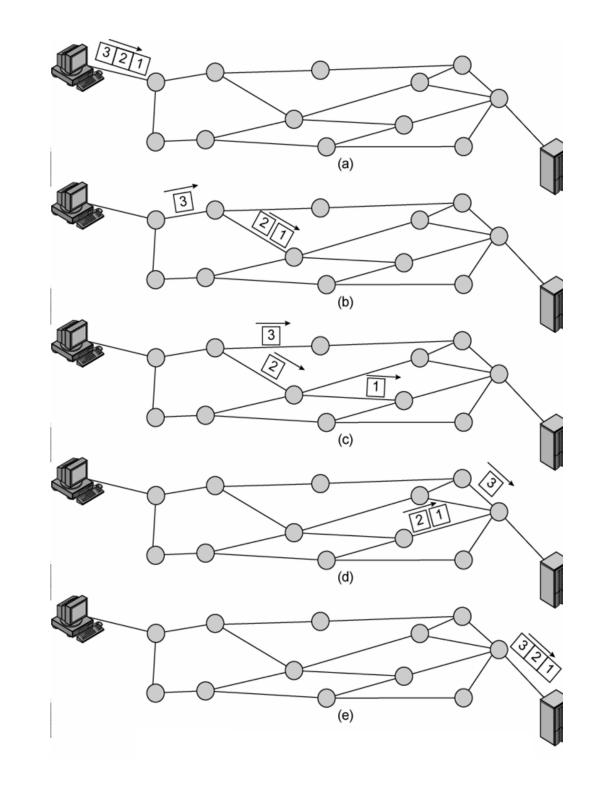


Packet Switching





Packet Switching



Packet Header

| No: | 47 |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| MAC source address: | 00-80-C8-05-D3-21 |
| Protocol: | НТТР |
| Source IP address: | 202.123.45.231 |
| Dest IP address: | 197.168.100.31 |
| Source port: | 202.123.45.231:80 |
| SEQ: | 1312 |
| ACK: | 9918611 |
| Packet size: | 69507 |
| TTL | 30 ms |



Packet Data

0010: 46 6F 72 20 65 78 61 6D 70 6C 65 20 70 6F 72 74 For example port 0020: 20 6E 75 6D 62 65 72 20 32 31 20 69 73 20 74 68 number 21 is th 0030: 65 20 46 54 50 20 70 6F 72 74 2E 20 50 6F 72 74 e FTP port. Port 0040: 20 6E 75 6D 62 65 72 20 32 33 20 69 73 20 74 68 number 23 is th 0050: 65 20 74 65 6C 6E 65 74 20 70 6E 72 74 20 61 6E e telnet port an 0060: 64 20 61 6C 6C 20 77 65 62 20 70 61 67 65 73 20 d all web pages 0070: 61 72 65 20 76 69 65 77 65 64 20 75 73 69 6E 67 are viewed using 0080: 2074 68 65 20 48 79 70 65 72 20 54 65 78 74 20 the Hyper Text



Basic concepts

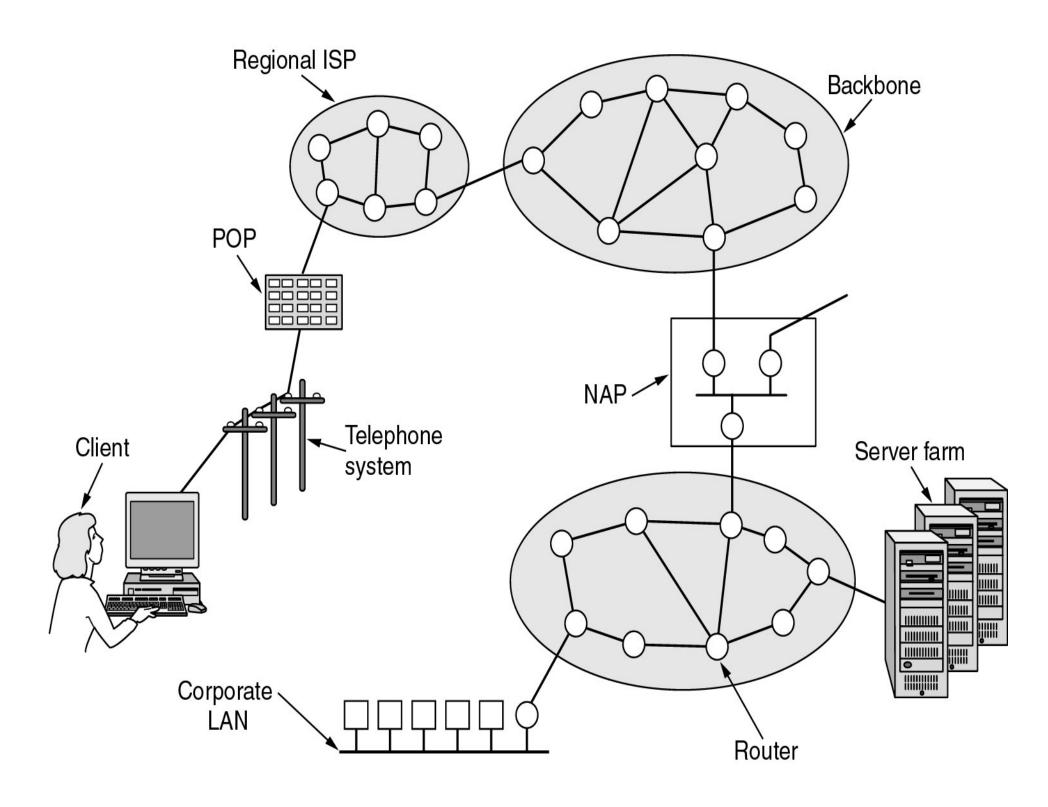
- IP Address
- Domain names
- Domain name servers
- Web Servers
- Web Browsers



Internet Service Providers

- Provide access to the Internet
- Also provide direct connection from a company's networks to the Internet
- Connect users through POP (points of presence)
- Each user is given a unique IP address when he logs on to the Internet





Internet backbone

- Referred to the central network that linked all parts of the Internet
- Mainly consists of optic fiber cables
- Now consists entirely of ISPs and private networks.

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Internet Protocol (IP) Address

• 32 – bit address separated by periods.

202.11.34.56

11001010. 00001011. 00100010. 00111000

• Each field can contain a value between 0-255, known as octets

0-255.0-255.0-255 = 2⁸. 2⁸. 2⁸. 2⁸.



Domain Name System

- Maps host names to IP addresses
- Allows independence from knowledge of physical location of host
- A resolver grants access to the system

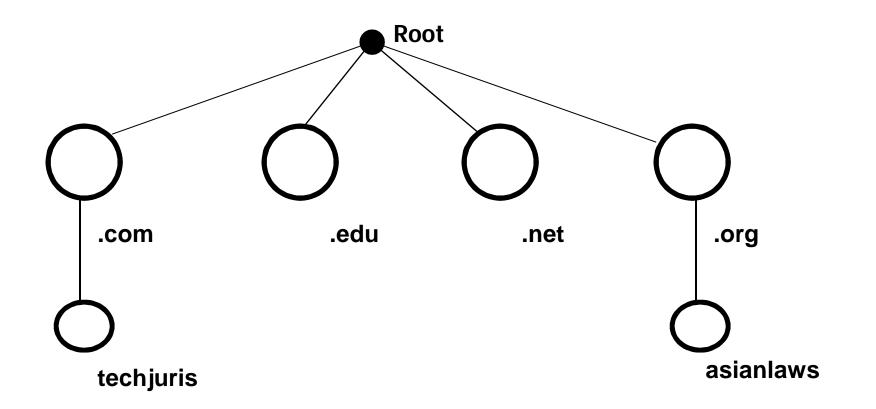


Organization

- Uses a hierarchical naming scheme known as domain names
- The root of the DNS tree is a special node with a null label (.)
- The name of each node (except root) may consist up to 63 characters.



Organization

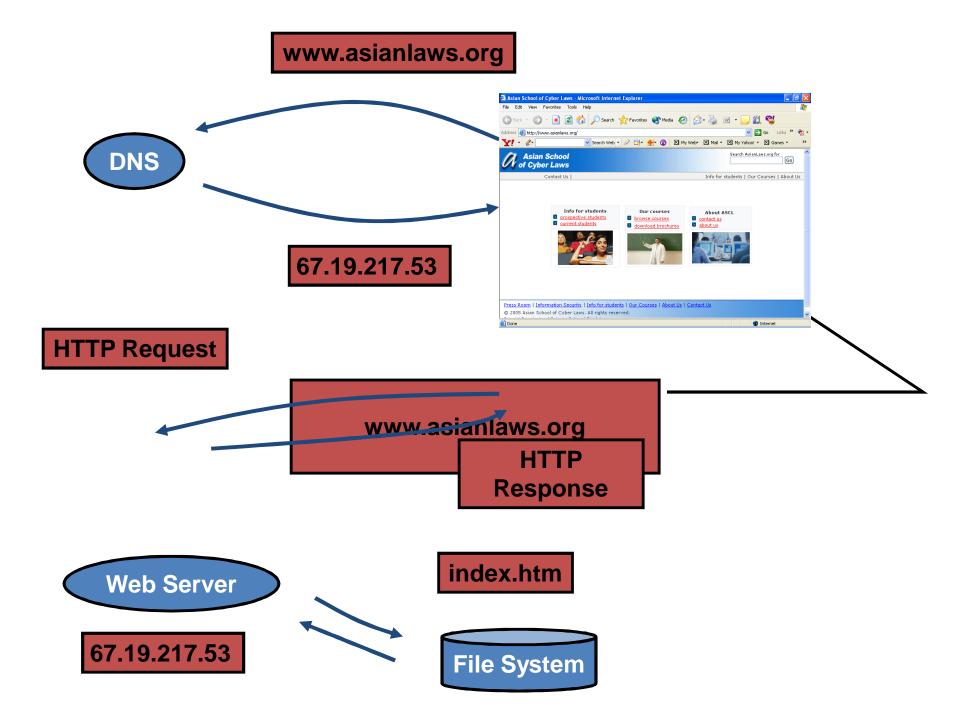




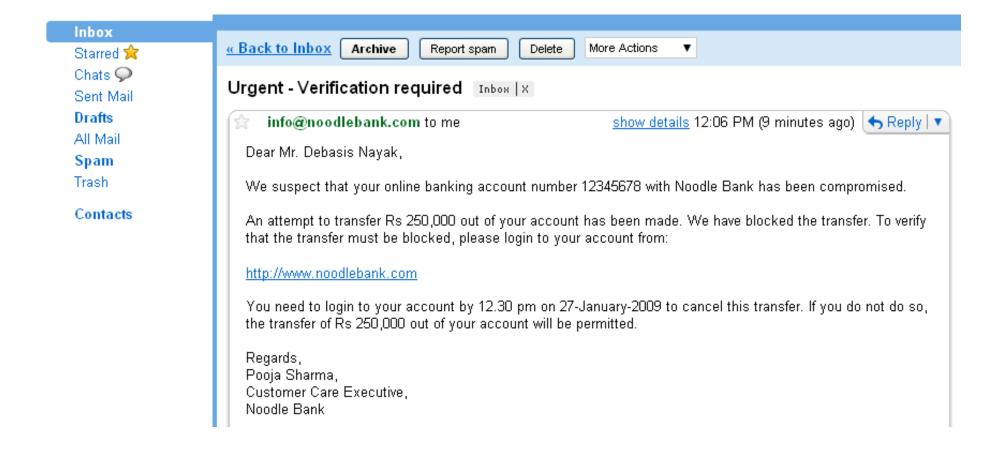
DNS caching

- A DNS caches information received about a mapping
- A later query for the same mapping uses the cached result
- DNS caches are updated periodically





The spoofed email

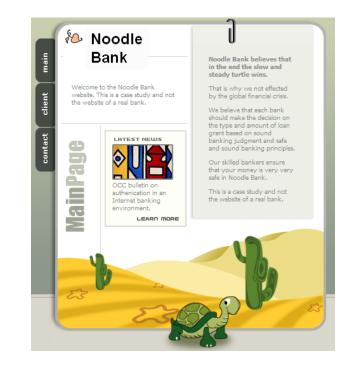


The spoofing

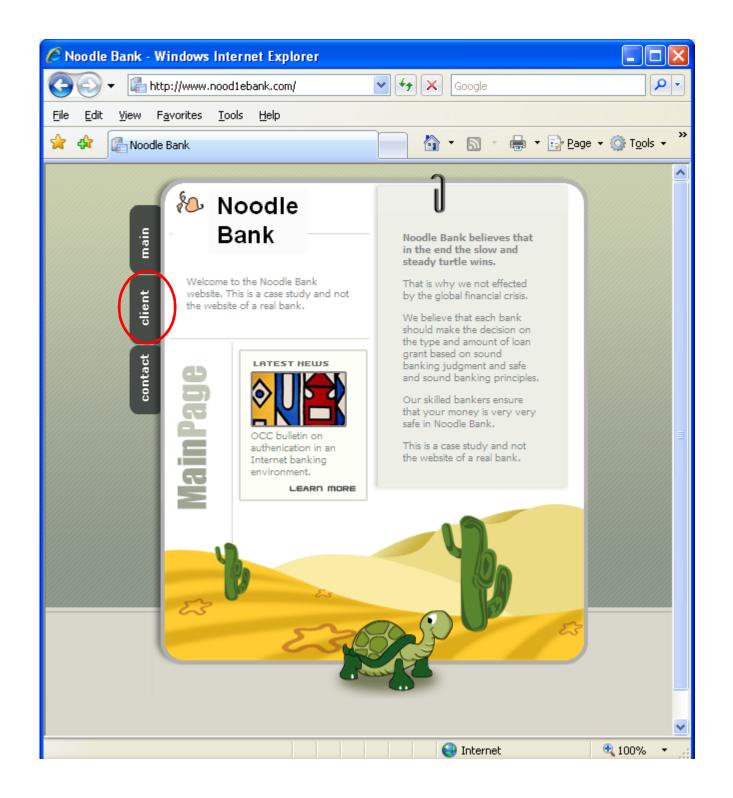
- The link appears as <u>www.noodlebank.com</u> (i.e NOODLEBANK.com)
- But actually it links to
 www.noodlebank.com (i.e NOOD1EBANK.com)

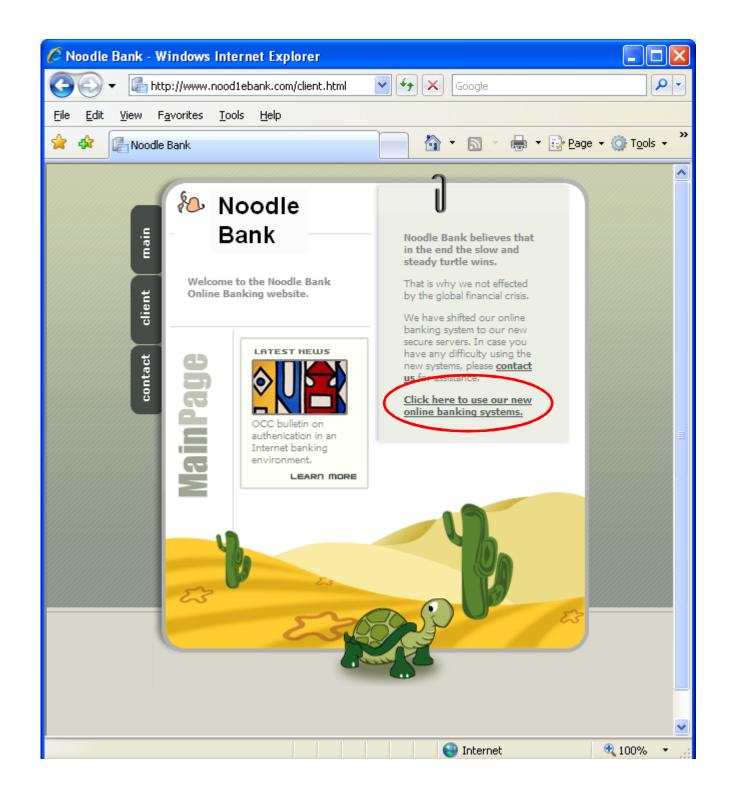


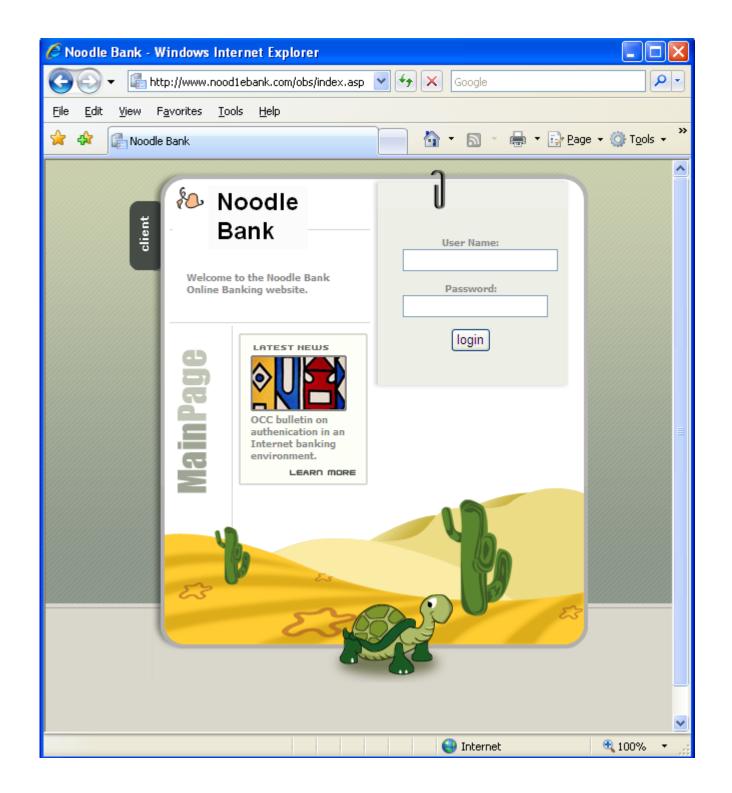
The fake site

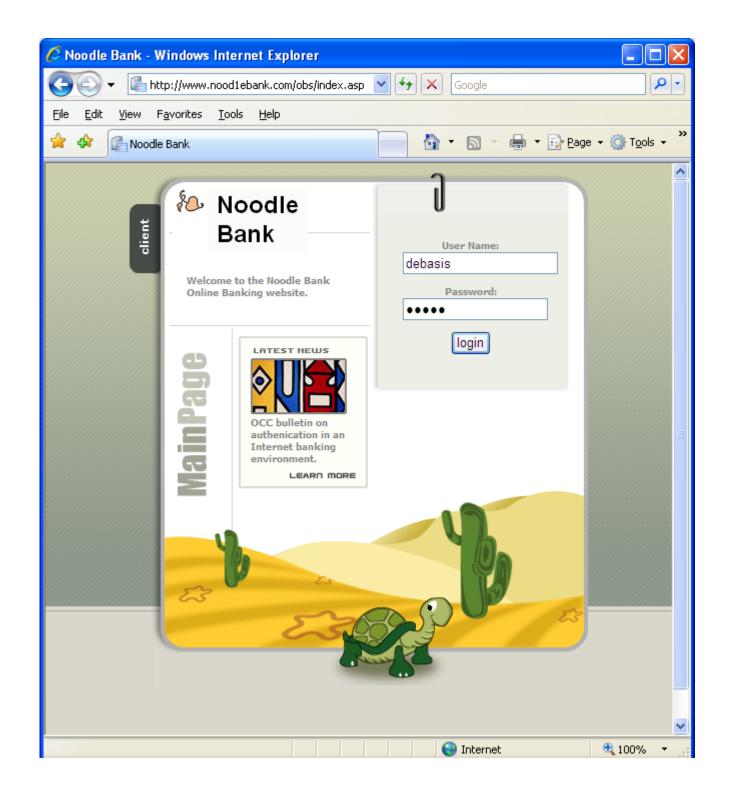


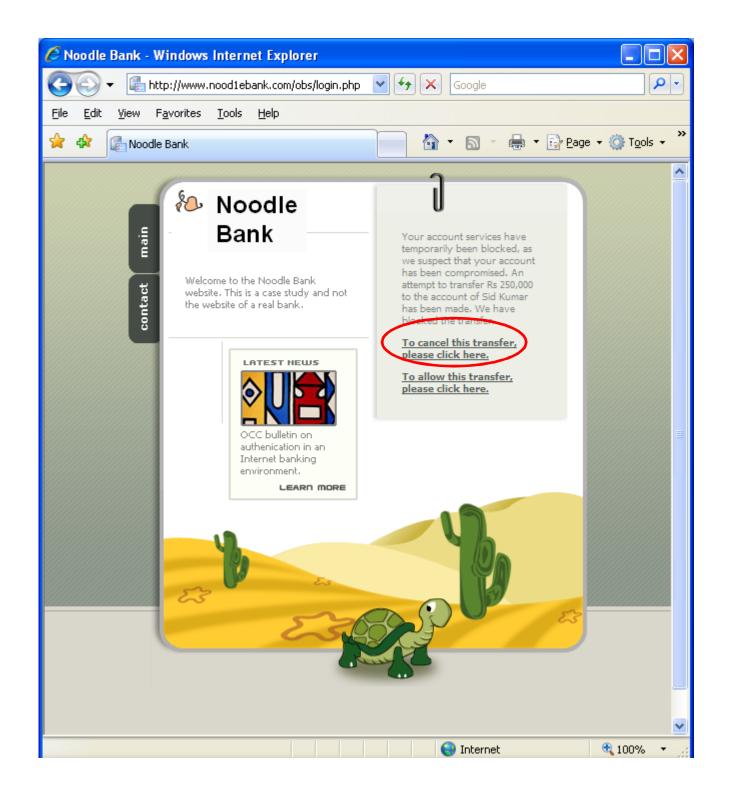


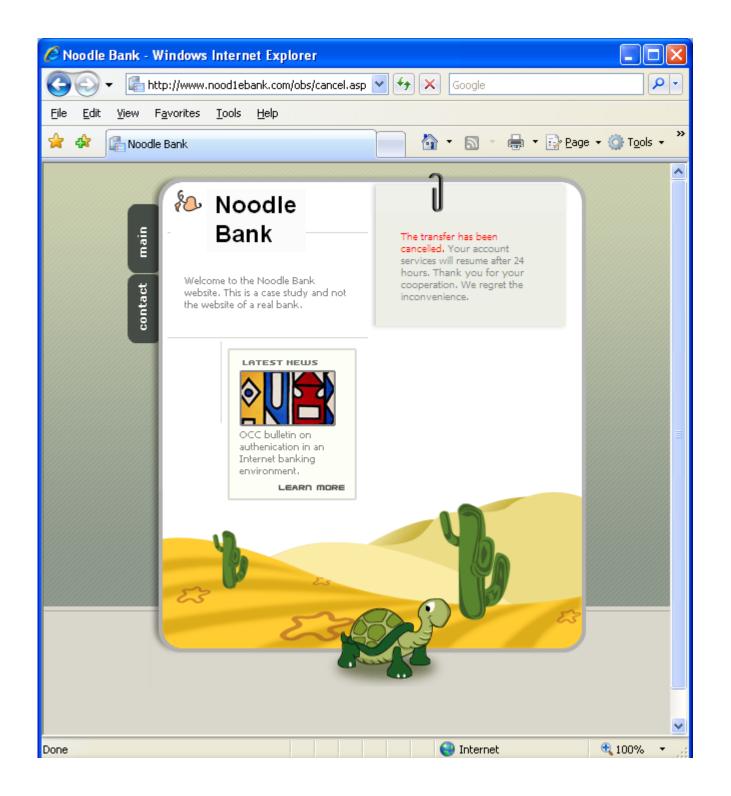












The "steal"

 When username-password at the spoofed website is entered, the username-password was sent across to the criminal carrying out the phishing attack.



| 🖉 Password obtained - spamavert.com - Windows Internet Explorer | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--|
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| NoodleBank.com website <u>FAQ ABOUT SPAMAVERT CONTACT PRIVACY POLICY PRESS ROOM</u> Copyright © 2006 Digital Creations AS. All rights reserved. | | |
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Fundamentals of investigation

- The <u>KEY</u> to almost all web based crimes
 - IP Address
 - Figures in server logs
 - Figures in email headers
- Identify the correct IP address
 - Time zones
 - Shivaji Maharaj (Airtel case)



Fundamentals of investigation

- Track physical location of the IP Address
- Identify the suspect computer to which the IP address was allotted
- Collect corroborative evidence from suspect computer



Whois Search

Whois search for 208.113.199.97 using www.whois.net

| OrgName: | New Dream Network, LLC |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| OrgID: | NDN |
| Address: | 417 Associated Rd |
| Address: | РМВ #257 |
| City: | Brea |
| StateProv: | CA |
| PostalCode: | 92821 |
| Country: | US |
| - | |
| NetRange: | 208.113.128.0 - 208.113.255.255 |
| CIDR: | 208.113.128.0/17 |
| NetName: | DREAMHOST-BLK6 |
| NetHandle: | NET-208-113-128-0-1 |
| Parent: | NET-208-0-0-0-0 |
| NetType: | Direct Allocation |
| NameServer: | NS1.DREAMHOST.COM |
| NameServer: | NS2.DREAMHOST.COM |
| NameServer: | NS3.DREAMHOST.COM |
| Comment: | |
| RegDate: | 2006-04-12 |
| Updated: | 2007-11-01 |



Extended Info IP Address: 208.113.199.97 IP Location: United States Website Status: active Server Type: Apache/2.0.61 (Unix) PHP/4.4.7 mod_ssl/2.0.61 OpenSSL/0.9.7e mod_fastcgi/2.4.2 DAV/2 SVN/1.4.2 Cache Date: 2008-04-29 03:21:29 MST



Server Logs

#Software: Microsoft Internet Information Services 6.0 #Version: 1.0 #Date: 2007-10-13 06:45:10

2007-10-13 00:45:26 <u>172.224.24.114</u>-67.19.217.53 80 GET /index.htm - 200 7930 248 31 Mozilla/4.0+(compatible;+MSIE+5.01;+Windows+200 0+Server)

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Evidence in phishing cases

- Who is the victim's ISP?
- Is there a copy of the email?
- Who is the purported sender?
- What is the domain name and IP address of the suspect site?
- When was the site visited by the complainant and from where?

Evidence in phishing cases

- Is a copy of the website saved or do screenshots exist?
- To which bank acc. were payments made?
- Is there any contact email address?
- Who are the relevant service providers?
- Have headers been examined?

Admissibility of Digital Evidence Sec 65B (Indian Evidence Act)

- Computer output shall be deemed to be a document if the conditions mentioned in Sec 65B(2) section are satisfied
- It shall be <u>admissible</u> in any proceedings, without further proof of the original

 As evidence of any contents of the original



Admissibility of Digital Evidence Sec 65B(2)(a)(Evidence Act)

 That the computer output was produced during the period over which the computer was used regularly to store or process information...... by the person having lawful control over the use of the computer



Admissibility of Digital Evidence Sec 65B(2)(b)(Evidence Act)

 During the said period, information of the kind contained in the electronic record...... was regularly fed into the computer in the ordinary course of the said activities;



Admissibility of Digital Evidence Sec 65B(2)(c)(Evidence Act)

 Throughout the material part of the said period, the computer was operating properly or, if not,it was not such as to affect the electronic record or the accuracy of its contents;



Admissibility of Digital Evidence Sec 65B(2)(d)(Evidence Act)

• The information contained in the electronic record reproduces or is derived from such information fed into the computer in the ordinary course of the said activities.



Section 65B(4)

- "In any proceedings where it is desired to give a statement in evidence by virtue of this section, a *certificate*......"
 - identifying the electronic record.. and describing the manner in which it was produced;
 - giving such particulars of any device involved ..
 - dealing with any of the matters to which the conditions mentioned in subsection (2) relate,

Section 65B(4) Contd.....

and purporting to be *signed by a person occupying responsible official position* in relation to

 the operation of the relevant device or the management of the relevant activities (whichever is appropriate) <u>shall be evidence</u> of any matter stated in the certificate



Who will give the Certificate under 65B(4)

- In criminal cases, where accused's computer is seized and his HDD is cloned
 - The cyber forensic analyst cloning the HDD and presenting evidence after analysis of the clone
- In civil cases
 - The Plaintiff or the Defendant who desires to furnish evidence from his computer



Amendment to Bankers' Books Evidence Act (Contd...)

- Printout/Copy of entry or the book shall be accompanied by
 - Cert. by Manager identifying the entry
 - Cert. by computer-in-charge giving details of data storage, safeguards and computer where such data is stored
 - Cert. by comp-in-charge (manner of affidavit) relating to integrity of printout and computer

- Parliament attack case
- Laptop, storage devices recovered from a truck in Srinagar
- Laptop contained files relating to identity cards, stickers used by terrorists



- Defense issues
 - -Files created after the laptop was seized
 - Date setting can be edited
 - In the absence of verified time setting and concrete proof about the originality of the hard disk, evidence is inadmissible



- Findings
 - If accuracy of computer evidence is to be challenged, burden lies on the side who makes such a challenge
 - –User created files and system files, difference
 - Mere theoretical doubts cannot be cast on evidence



State Vs. Navjot Sandhu (Facts)

- The laptop was deposited in the malkhana on 16.1.2002
- Analysis revealed that two of the files were last written on 21.1.2001
 - one file was last accessed and last written on the same day
- Case diary noting the laptop was accessed at the malkhana on 21.1.2002.

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- While cross examining PW73, a question was put as to how a file could be written without it being accessed.
- The witness answered that the file can be written without being accessed by copying it on a different storage media.



- The learned counsel for the State is justified in his comment that the said answer was not a response pertaining to system files, which are self-generating and self-written.
- There was no suggestion to any witness that the date or time setting has been modified in the instant case so as to facilitate tampering.

 A mountain out of mole hill is sought to be made out by reason of the observation of PW73 that some of the files were last written after the date of seizure and the answer given by PW73 with reference to a general, hypothetical question



- Certificate under 65B(4) is an alternative method to prove electronic record
- Irrespective of the compliance of the requirements of Section 65B
 - there is no bar to adducing secondary evidence under the other provisions of the Evidence Act, Ss. 63 & 65



- Certificate containing details in S.Sec (4) of Section 65B my not have been filed
- That does not mean that secondary evidence cannot be given
 - even if the law permits such evidence to be given in the circumstances mentioned in the relevant provisions, namely Sections 63 & 65.

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- Gist of findings
 - Accessing a suspect computer after date of seizure ipso facto does not render evidence inadmissible;
 - If accuracy of computer evidence is challenged, burden is on party making such challenge;
 - Certificate under 65(B)(4) is not mandatory for making electronic evidence admissible

Anwar Vs. PK Basheer, SC Sep '14

- Electronic record by way of secondary evidence is inadmissible unless accompanied by cert. at the time of taking the document
- Earlier proposition laid down regarding no mandatory requirement of Cert. in 65B is bad in law and is overruled



Position of law

• What happens to all those cases where 65B(4) certificates were not furnished because Navjot Sandhu held the field?



Examiner of Electronic Evidence

- Examiner of elec. Evidence
 - Central Govt. may notify in O.G.
 - Any agency/dept/body of C.G. or S.G.
 - For expert opinion on electronic evidence
- Opinion becomes relevant fact u/s 45A (new) of the Evidence Act



Admissibility of Text Messages

- Printouts of text message may be admitted following the usual method under Section 65B
- Court may summon the service provider to give details of text messages from a particular number
- Printouts must contain date, time, telephone number of each text message for verification

Admissibility of Whatsap Messages

- The same procedure to be followed like in case of text messages
- However, Whatsap messages are not stored on Whatsap servers unlike TSPs in text messages
- Reliability must be established, if questioned

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Audio/Video clippings in Mobile Phones

- Admissible
- Procedure under Section 65B to be followed
- If 65B cert. exists, oral evidence necessary only when authenticity is questioned
- If 65B conditions are met, phone itself is not necessary as an exhibit
- Only when trial court is not satisfied with evidence led, it may require original phone

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Emails

- Procedure under Section 65B
- Contents of e-mails as evidence
 - If parties admit the contents
 - If email is digitally signed
 - By subsequent conduct of parties
- In the alternative, by an IP address trace
- Finally, by examination of witnesses

Emails

- If emails have been produced after
 - Following procedure in 65B
 - Genuineness has been proved by witnesses
 Subsequent deletion is inconsequential
- 65B(1) admitted as direct evidence
- 65(c) When the original has been lost or destroyed



Tampering with evidence

- Hash value
- Expert report about file creation, access and modification
- In the absence of standard procedures being followed, by examination of witnesses

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Magraj Patodia Vs. R.K.Birla, SC 1972

- Documents illegally produced as evidence in prosecution relating to election case
- Documents recovered illegally from person who was neither witness nor party to the case
- "the fact that a document was procured by improper or even illegal means will not be a bar to its admissibility if it is relevant and its genuineness proved"



Pooran Mal Vs. Director of Inspection, SC 1973

- Case relating to Income Tax
- Documents alleged to have been seized illegally during search and seizure
- "...Neither by invoking the spirit of our Constitution nor by a strained construction of any of the fundamental rights can we spell out the exclusion of evidence obtained on an illegal search"



State (N.C.T of Delhi) Vs. Navjot Sandhu, SC 2005

- CDR produced by illegal interception
- "The non-compliance or inadequate compliance with the provisions of the Telegraph Act does not per se affect the admissibility."



IT Act 2000

- No Procedure for search and seizure specifically described
- 65B, Evidence Act talks only about admissibility on basis of Cert. under 65B(4)
- Conclusion?



Questions?

