CSCI 215 Social & Ethical Issues In Computing

Class 8 – Hackers, Hacktivists, Personal Responsibility
Notes

• Homework 2 is Due Tonight
• Homework 3 will be posted sometime Tomorrow (?)
  • Homework 3’s deadline will be next Friday at 11:59pm, not Thursday
• No Class on Monday
• COMPUTER MUSEUM on Tuesday
  • Bring (at least) $3
  • 4:00pm: I will walk from this room to the traffic light at 11th and Kagy (in front of town and country)
  • 4:15pm: we will walk from the aforementioned traffic light to the computer museum
  • 4:30pm: Tour starts
Discussion warm up

• Slacktivism:
Discussion warm up

• **Slacktivism**: actions performed via the Internet in support of a political or social cause but regarded as requiring little time or involvement

• Is there a case for Slactivism?
Aaron Swartz

- 14 Years old: Co-wrote RSS Specifications
  - Rich Site Summary / Really Simple Syndication
- Went to Stanford but dropped out after a year
- Help create Reddit
- Internet Activism against censorship
- Distributes academic papers
- Distributed Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER), which normally cost $0.08 a page
Aaron Swartz
Anonymous – a timeline

2006: Elaborate online pranks organize into “Raids”
Anonymous – a timeline

2008: Pranks Scientology, followed be a division of the group: Morals vs Pranks
Anonymous – a timeline

2009: Anonymous sets up forums after protest breaks out in Iran, and helps protestors hide identity from government officials.
Anonymous – a timeline

Anonymous – a timeline

2010: Create Chatrooms for protestors in Tunisia, provides software to help Tunisians get around government internet blocks.
Anonymous – a timeline

2011: Anonymous offshoot breaks into Stratfor, stole credit card numbers, and donated half a million dollars to charities.

Happy LulzXmas @STRATFOR | Thanks for storing your customers' CC/CCV #s in cleartext, w/corresponding addresses. Y u no bother encrypting?
Anonymous – a timeline

2011: Anonymous takes down more than 40 child pornography sites, leaked 1,589 active member names to the public
Anonymous – a timeline

2011: San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) turn off cell coverage to prevent a protest after a fatal shooting of an unarmed passenger by the BART police. Posted member’s/officer’s information online, organized several protests

BART spokesperson refused to acknowledge it was a mistake to take down cell service, so Anonymous posted nude picture of him online.
Anonymous – a timeline

2012: DOJ raids file uploading site MegaUpload, Anonymous retaliates by taking down several government websites, including DOJ
Anonymous – a timeline

2014 - 2015: Police killed Michael Brown, a black teenager in Ferguson, Missouri. Members of the Klan threatened to use deadly force against those they considered “terrorists masquerading as ‘peaceful protesters.’”

Anonymous released several names of known members, criminals, and suspected FBI informants, and withheld several names for further investigation.
Change in topic, let’s reset with a 5 minute break
http://www.ted.com/talks/james_lyne_everyday_cybercrime_and_what_you_can_do_about_it
Security, the Basics

• Change your password and underwear often - and for the same reason. DO NOT reuse the same password for various sites
• Be informed on recent security threats and keep software up-to-date
• Be aware of secure connections (HTTPS vs HTTP)
  • **HTTP:** Hypertext Transfer Protocol
  • **HTTPS:** Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure
  • **SSL:** Secure Sockets Layer (Secure Certificate)
Security, the Basics

• NEVER share personal information such as password, bank accounts, etc.
  • Probably ever in general – but never over email

• Don’t share your password, just.. .just don’t do it
  • http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/JobClub/story?id=7879939
Bozeman Asks for Passwords

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABP1sXM-_AM
Discussion

• Is it appropriate - on some level - to require passwords, as a means to detect morals of important roles, such as law enforcement?
Security, the Basics

• Use one (and only one) good anti-virus program
• Be careful about what information you make public on social media
  • For example: Your birthdate and birth town can make it possible to guess your SSN
• Be careful of what you click on
It’s a scary world out there: Some things you can do

Outsource your passwords to a robot

LastPass

1Password
It’s a scary world out there: Some things you can do

Outsource your passwords to a robot

• DEMO
• https://myspace.com/signup/email
It’s a scary world out there: Some things you can do

Use two-factor authentication wherever possible

- Debit Card and Pin (old school)
- Random number sent by text message
- Special App
  - e.g. Google Authenticator
- U2F key (Universal Second Factor)
  - Physical “key” that uses technology similar to smart cards technology
It’s a Scary world out there: Some things you can do

Encrypt!

• Encrypt individual files
• Enable Disk Encryption
  • Difference between losing your device and losing your identity
  • Con, if you damage your entire drive it is difficult to recover

• http://www.gfi.com/blog/the-top-24-free-tools-for-data-encryption/
It’s a Scary world out there:
Some things you can do

Cover your webcam /Password protect webcams
• Remote Access Tool, or RAT
• Covertly using webcams (even without turning on the ‘camera is in use’ light):
  • NSA, FBI, and other Governments
  • Equipment Rentals
  • Previously owned laptops
  • Perverts
It’s a Scary world out there: Some things you can do

• Can cover camera’s with:
  • Stickers
  • Sticky notes
  • Commercially available products

• Plug dummy plug into microphone jack
Discussion

• What did I miss? How do you stay safe?