

Botnets: Rise of the Dark Dragon

One of the most significant threats to the internet today is the threat of Botnets “zombie armies”. These are networks of large numbers of “bots” that runs automatically and autonomously. They are remotely controlled by a master host through one or more controller host(s). These “bots” are used for malicious activities: The perpetrators use the master host to relay their commands to the “bots” via the controller hosts. These controllers could be IRC servers that are normally used to relay messages between clients. The “Bots” can be differentiated from other threats by quite a few ways. One of It is that they have communication channels to a controller host. Thus, “Bots” inherits the ability to hide like viruses, propagate like worms, and provide cyber criminals the “perfect” platforms with which to commit their crimes.

This talk describes Bots, Botnets and Bot Controllers. This moves onto a discussion on the areas of Bot involvement on the Internet and then the presentation provides an in-depth and interesting view of some of the most prominent Bot attacks in history