



For the best of reasons

Securing our Underlying Resources in Cyber Environments (SoURCE CODE)

IARPA SoURCE CODE Lightning Talk

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5 October 2023



Noblis: A Non-Profit Science and Technology Company

As an innovator within the federal government, Noblis is committed to enriching lives and making our nation safer while investing in the missions of tomorrow.



Civil



Defense



Homeland Security



Intelligence and Law Enforcement

A Sample of Our Customers



CMS



FBI



DHA



NASA



DHS



USDOT



DTRA



USGC and IC

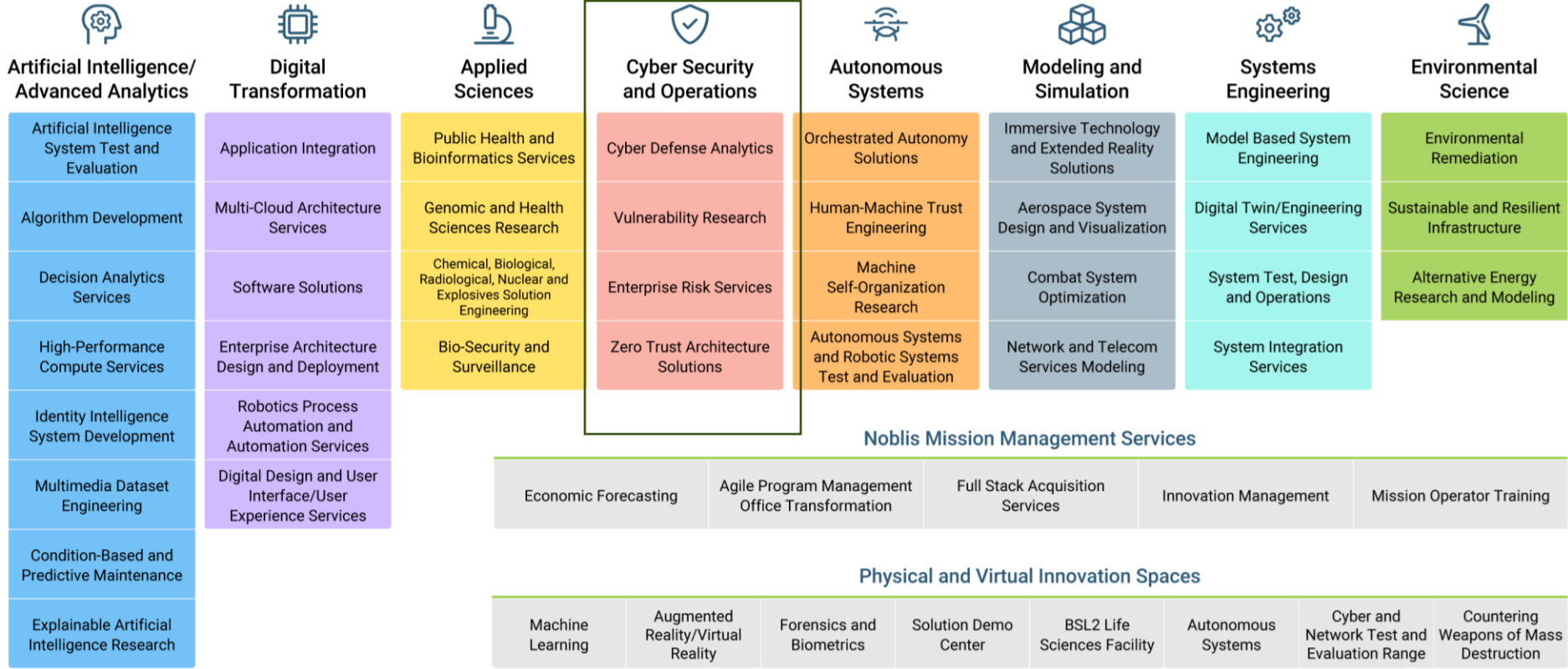


FAA



U.S. Navy

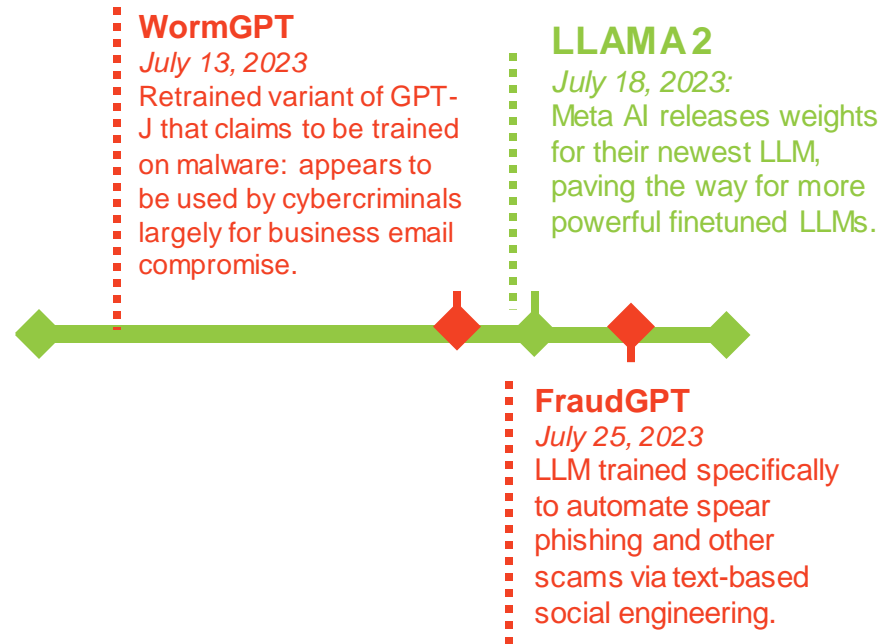
Noblis Science, Engineering and Technology Capabilities



IARPA Challenge

Provide novel techniques to assist forensic experts in making determinations of the most likely attackers, based on coding styles.

- How do we rigorously attribute malware to likely origins at scale?
 - Desire general means of determining likely origins of malware
 - AI-generated cyberattacks may require more general means of attribution



Key Considerations

- General

- Heuristics are often not general enough; e.g., signature-based methods are easily fooled by functionally-equivalent code
- Previous Noblis research demonstrated the feasibility of automatically fooling dozens of malware detectors with a polymorphic engine

```
0x40c78f push ebp
0x40c790 mov ebp, esp
0x40c792 sub esp, 0xc
0x40c795 push esi
0x40c796 mov esi, dword ptr [0x41ac40]
0x40c79c mov ecx, dword ptr [0x41abdd]
0x40c7a2 sub esi, ecx
0x40c7a4 xor esi, dword ptr [esi+ecx*1]
0x40c7a7 sub ecx, edx
0x40c7a9 mov esi, 0xf89c85b9
0x40c7ae mov dword ptr [ebp-0x8], esi
0x40c7b1 sub dword ptr [0x42b010], edi
0x40c7b7 mov dword ptr [ebp-0x4], 0xf89c85b8
0x40c7be and dword ptr [0x42901c], 0x0
```

...81550b9951dad52aadccb3152
ed7e0cb196f240f18bb328...

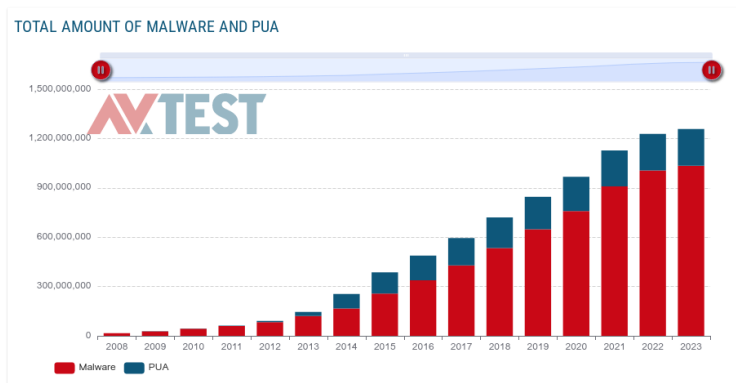


```
0x40c78f push ebp
0x40c790 mov ebp, esp
0x40c792 sub esp, 0xc
0x40c795 push esi
0x40c796 nop
0x40c79c mov esi, dword ptr [0x41ac40]
0x40c79e mov ecx, dword ptr [0x41abdd]
0x40c7a2 sub esi, ecx
0x40c7a4 xor esi, dword ptr [esi+ecx*1]
0x40c7a7 sub ecx, edx
0x40c7a9 mov esi, 0xf89c85b9
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0x40c7be and dword ptr [0x42901c], 0x0
```

...8155900b9951dad52aadccb3
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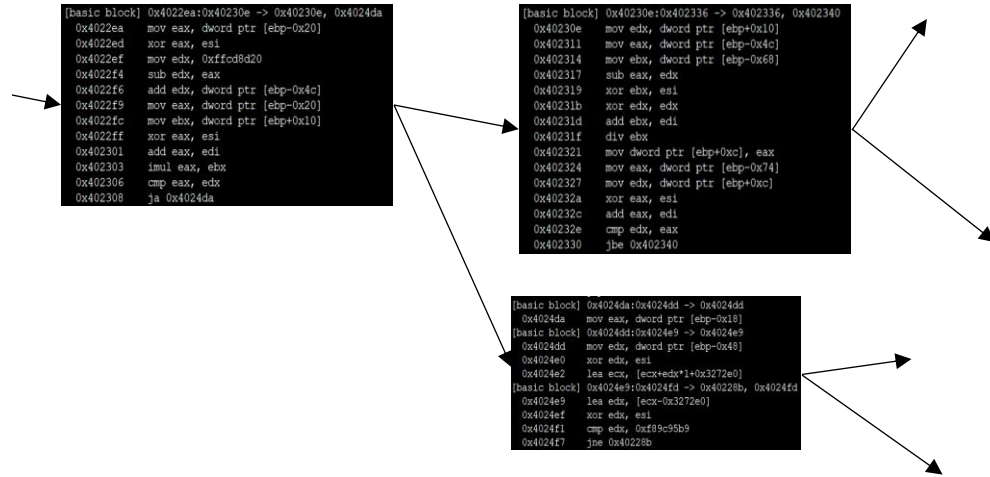
- Scalable

- Known malware samples are on the rise, and AI-generated malware presents a considerable risk for accelerating the production of new cyberattacks
- ML predictions can be learned automatically and cover far more general feature spaces

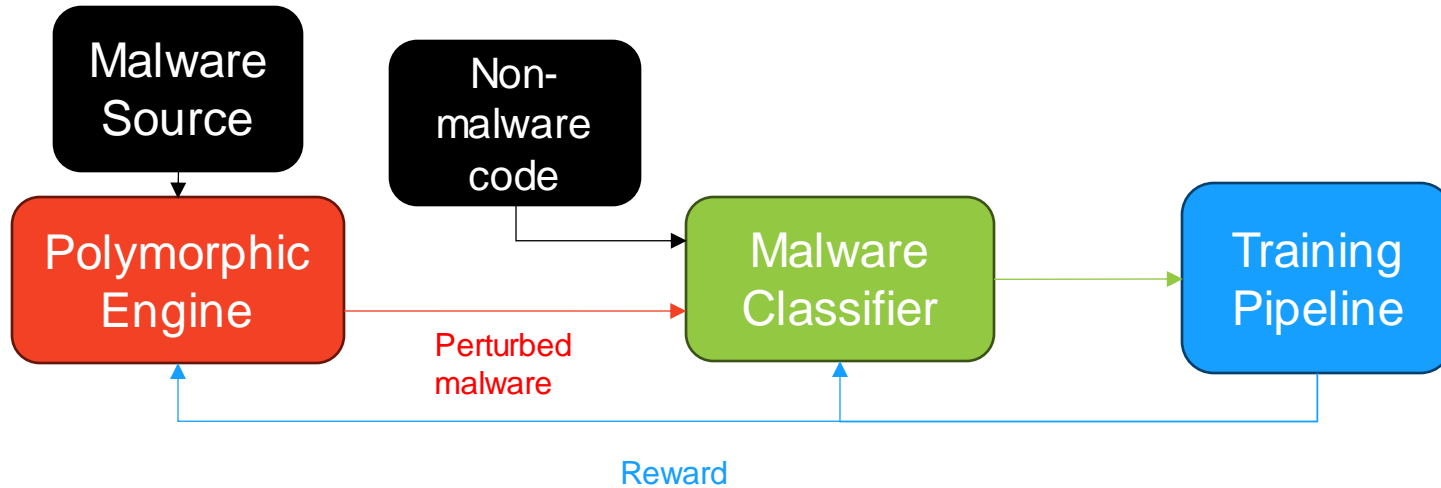


Noblis Approaches

- Graph convolutional network approach
 - Use control flow graphs on binaries
- Transformer approach
 - Especially helpful if source code (e.g. JavaScript) is available



Current Research



Given that existing ML approaches tend to overfit, Noblis research is based on adversarial learning between a model trained to generate perturbed malware and a malware classifier allowing for more rigorous detection

Looking Forward

- Create a capability to automatically cluster files by likely origins using ML
 - Leverage existing Noblis capabilities and infrastructure at the nexus of Cyber and ML
 - Siamese neural network to predict distance between malware samples in terms of likely origin feature space

Working With Us

Noblis partners with Government and Industry and Looks Forward to Hearing from You!



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