Detecting Social Engineering Attacks Using Semantic Language Analysis



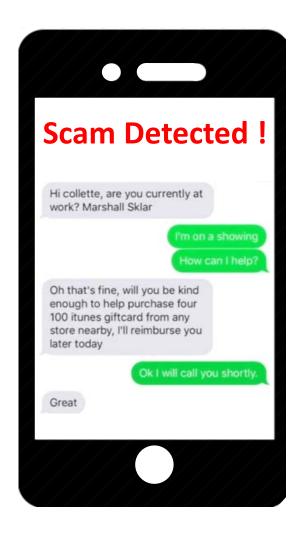
Challenge:

- Detecting conversational social engineering attacks in real-time
 - Phone, text, in-person
- Generate a corpus of realistic telephone-based attacks

Solution:

- Use Natural Language Understanding to infer malicious intent
- Detection approach based on question-answering
- Performing user study on effectiveness of scams

Award # 1813858 University of California Irvine Professor Ian G. Harris harris@ics.uci.edu



Scientific Impact:

- Detection of conversational (non-email) attacks
- Corpus of realistic telephonebased attacks is needed to support research in conversational attacks

Broader Impact:

- Telephone scams are rampant and currently not preventable
- It is common for people to ignore phone calls
- Social engineering detection can make phones usable again
- Phone app for detection is possible with speech-to-text technology
- User study trains students to resist scams