

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND DIVISION

THE TRUSTEES OF COLUMBIA
UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW
YORK,

Plaintiff

vs.

SYMANTEC CORPORATION,

Defendant

Civil Action No. 3:13-cv-00808-JRS

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

DECLARATION OF PROFESSOR DOUGLAS C. SZAJDA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. Background and Qualifications.....	1
II. Legal Standards Applied.....	2
III. Subject of the Declaration and Basis for Opinions.....	2
IV. Background on Computer Security and Anti-Virus Technology	3
V. Person Ordinary Skill in the Art	8
VI. '544/'907 Patents	9
B. Background on the Patents.....	9
C. Creation of the Byte Sequence Feature.....	11
ii. Bits and Bytes	12
iii. Byte Sequence.....	12
iv. Byte Sequence Feature.....	12
v. Extracting a Byte Sequence Feature by Creating a Byte String Representative of Resources	13
vi. Instructions Executed by the Central Processing Unit Are Not the Only Source for Byte Sequence Features	13
vii. The Use of Hexdump to Extract a Byte Sequence Feature Is Not Required.....	14
D. Email Interface.....	15
VII. '084/'306 Patents	16
A. Background on the '084/'306 Patents.....	16
B. Operating System Registry	17
C. Anomaly.....	20
D. Probabilistic Model of Normal Computer System Usage.....	21
VIII. '115/'322 Patents	25
A. Background on the '115/'322 Patents.....	26

	<u>Page</u>
B. The Use of an Emulator	27
C. Application Community.....	29
D. Use of a Model to Detect Potential Danger	30
E. Once an Anomaly Is Detected, Certain Embodiments in the Patents Allow for Additional Functions to Occur	31
Appendix A.....	35
Appendix B.....	37

I. Background and Qualifications

1. I am a professor with tenure in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Richmond. I received my PhD in Mathematics and a Masters of Computer Science from the University of Virginia in 1999. I then held a post-doctoral fellowship in Computer Science at the University of Maryland Institute for Advanced Computer Studies. Exhibit A is a copy of my CV. All exhibits in my declaration are in the Declaration of Gavin Snyder (“Snyder Decl.”).

2. Several aspects of my professional life are relevant to the subject of this declaration. First, I train computer scientists in aspects of computer security directly relevant to the three families of Columbia patents that I understand are issue in this case. I teach Computer Networks and Computer Security classes in my department. In addition, under the auspices of programs such as the National Science Foundation Cyber Trust program grant, I train computer security researchers in the laboratory. These students conduct research at the top universities and technology companies in the country, including Microsoft and Google. I also have been the coordinator of the University of Richmond’s System Security Group since 2002.

3. Second, outside of the University I have devoted a large portion of my professional life to issues of computer security. I served as General Chair of the Internet Society’s Network and Distributed System Security (“NDSS”) Symposium from 2008–2011, as an NDSS steering group member since 2007, and as a member of the conference organizing committee from 2005–2007. I have served on program committees for NDSS and the security track of the International Conference on Security Data Services. I have also reviewed papers for both the IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy and the USENIX Security Symposium. These are some of the most prominent conferences on computer security in the world.

4. Third, the research group I lead at the University of Richmond is focused on applying the same type of technology described in the three patent families at issue in this case: using machine learning techniques based on artificial intelligence to detect whether web pages contain malicious programs (*e.g.*, via embedded scripts or through links that cause malicious scripts to be downloaded and executed). Indeed, we have constructed a working platform that can perform real-time analysis of web pages to detect if they are hosting malicious programs. The platform has three parts: an instrumented web crawler for collecting candidate pages, an extraction unit to extract relevant features of the pages, and an analysis unit, which creates artificial intelligence models. The prototype is capable of mining virtually any data that is freely available over the Internet, and, with slight modification, can potentially perform analysis of any network transported malware.

II. Legal Standards Applied

5. Appendix A lists the legal standards I have been asked to apply in my analysis and discussion.

III. Subject of the Declaration and Basis for Opinions

6. I have been asked to provide background information on the technology in the three families of Columbia patents at issue in the case. As part of this process, I have also provided a summary of how a person of ordinary skill in the art of the patents would understand a number of the concepts that I understand are at issue in the proceedings. In preparing this declaration I have relied on my extensive experience in the field, as well the materials referenced in this declaration and certain material listed in Appendix B.

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