Computer Viruses and Worms are an increasing problem throughout the world, any domain where a computer or a network of computers are used there is always a hidden threat caused by virus. A Computer virus is a software program, script, that has been designed to infect, destroy, modify, or cause any other problems with a computer or software programs.

**Introduction:**

In today’s computing world viruses are classified as an overwriting Virus which replace existing programs and spread across computers and networks. There are worms which spread as standalone programs by creating new copies of themselves. A complex notion of virus would be Parasitic viruses which infect other programs by inserting themselves in such a way that both the viral code and actual program are executed when infected program is executed.

A polymorphic virus is the one which have a number of different possible forms and have ability to produces others.

**Motivation:**

Understanding the extent of the computer virus problem in the world, as students of computer science all should know how to keep their piece of cyberspace and network secure. There are hundreds of PC viruses written and the number is still increasing. To kill the virus effectively and to create safer computing it is a must to know about Viruses and their origins.

This paper gives a detailed description about

- The Evolution of Viruses.
- Classification of Viruses.
- Propagation Computer Virus.
- Detecting Computer Viruses.
- Prevention of Viruses (at computer as well as Network level).