

Releasing the Cracken

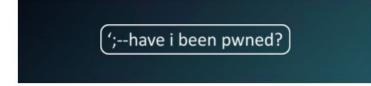
A Data Driven Approach for Password Generation

Shmuel Amar & Or Safran



You're one of people pwned in the

Have I Been Pwned <noreply@haveibeenpwned.com>





You've been pwned!

You signed up for notifications when your account was pwned in a data breach and unfortunately, it's happened. Here's what's known about the breach:

Email found:
Breach:
Date of breach:
Number of accounts:
Compromised data:
Description:

RockYou2021: largest password compilation of all time leaked online with 8.4 billion entries

The 773 Million Record "Collection #1" Data Breach

Huge Twitch leak exposes source code, passwords - what you need to do

Every single Yahoo account was hacked - 3 billion in all



Who?

Shmuel Amar

Architect@Proofpoint

NPRE Team

NLP Lab, BIU

Or Safran

TL@Proofpoint

Research Team

Security U Data U Cloud

Agenda

- Why passwords are still exploited?
- Its hard to crack long & simple passwords
- Creating Smartlists
- Experiment #1: Tuning Smartlists params
 - Cracken Demo
- Experiment #2: Cracking never revealed hashes
- Summary & Next Steps

Passwords? Passwords!!

Why passwords are still exploited

livelifelikeme08

VS

fqW34mF87u

Passwords are Obsolete?

- MFA Bypassed
- OAuth Applications
- Yubikey Not Used
- Password Managers Misused
- Leak to attack takes minutes



Why?



- Password reuse
- Survey by google claim 65% users reuse passwords

Remember: Recycle everything you can, but **do not** recycle your passwords.

Why?

October 11, 2021 By Pierluigi Paganini

DEV-0343: Iran-linked threat actors are targeting US and Israeli defense technology companies leveraging password spraying attacks.

MFA (Multi-Factor Authentication)

- 2 out of 3 factors:
 - knowledge (something the user and only the user knows)
 - o possession (something the user and only the user has)
 - o inherence (something the user and only the user is)
- Can be implemented with SMS, Authenticator, etc.
- Microsoft claims that MFA blocks over 99.9% account compromise attacks

MFA != SilverBullet

- Multi-factor authentication (MFA) bypass
 - Real Time Phishing
 - Channel Jacking
 - Legacy Protocols
 - Vulnerability

Real-time phishing

- Man-in-the-Middle (MITM) type of attack
 - Proxy between target and victim
- Interactive phishing
- Hard to automate
- Requires manual work
- Need to be online with the target

New tool automates phishing attacks that

Modlishka tool

bypass 2FA Phishing attacks that bypass 2-factor Trust in two-factor authentication authentication are now easier to execute

> Researchers released two tools--Muraen and NecroBrowser--that automate phishing attacks that can bypass 2FA. Most defenses won't stop them.

Channel-jacking

- MITB (Man-In-The-Browser)
 Malware
- Rogue Cell Tower
- Phone number takeover
- Hacking to the voice answering machine
 TrickBot Pushing a 2FA

TrickBot Pushing a 2FA Bypass App to Bank Customers in Germany

Legacy Protocols

"out with the new in with the old"

POP, IMAP, SMTP, MAPI



Vulnerability Vector

- Research once, use many (times)
- Can be very simple to activate and integrate
- Can be hard to detect, sometimes even impossible

New vulnerabilities allow hackers to bypass MFA for Microsoft 365



Attacks

User Enumeration

Password Spraying

Brute Force

User Enumeration

Random User working for Organization.fake

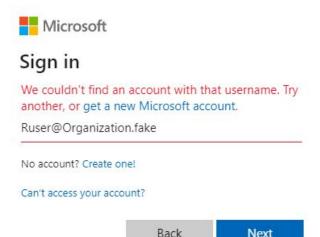
Ruser@Organization.fake

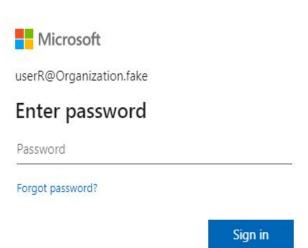
userR@Organization.fake

Random.User@Organization.fake

...

User Enumeration





Attacks

User Enumeration

Password Spraying

Brute Force

Password Spraying

userA@Organization.fake, userB@Organization.fake,
userC@Organization.fake, userD@Organization.fake...

Password: LetMeIn!

Brute Force

User Enumeration

Password Spraying

Brute Force

o365spray

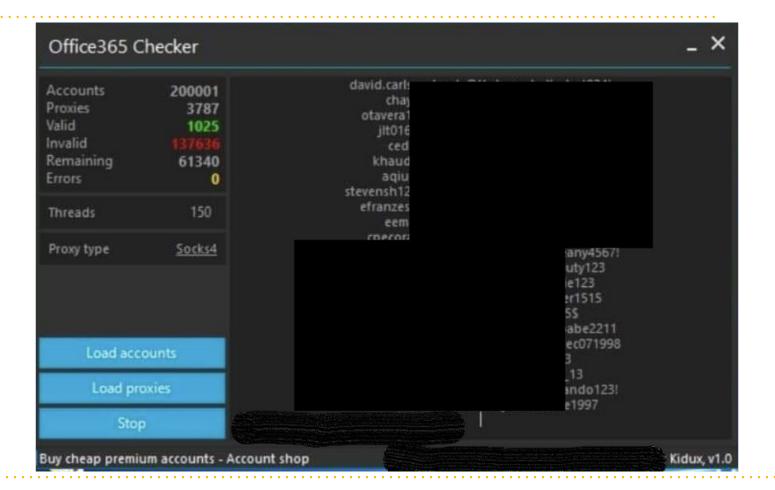
For educational, authorized and/or research purposes only.

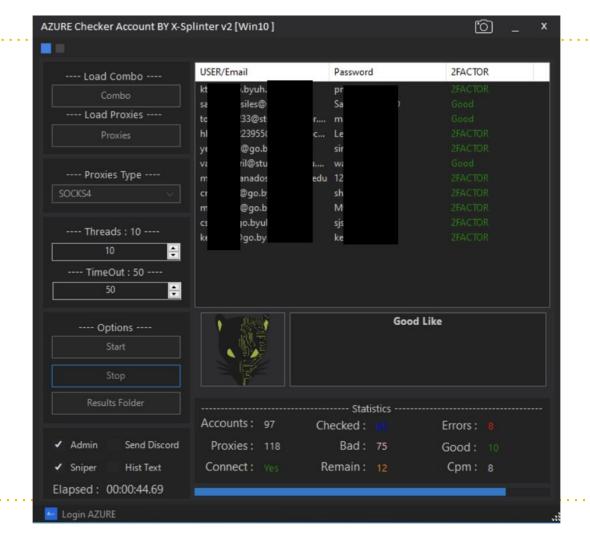
o365spray a username enumeration and password spraying tool aimed at Microsoft Office 365 (O365). This tool reimplements a collection of enumeration and spray techniques researched and identified by those mentioned in

Omnispray

Omnispray | Modular Enumeration and Password Spraying Framework -- v0.1.4

Omnispray aims to replace tools such as o365spray and provide a modular framework to expand enumeration and spraying beyond just a single target/application.





	All Mail Brute	8 734 766	3 259 639	2021-06-12 15:09	
	All Mail Checker 3.5.2.3	7 555 114	2 752 260	2021-06-12 15:09	
	📗 All Mail Checker by Sinus 1.4	9 064 261	3 334 556	2021-06-12 15:09	
.* `	🎎 Anatomy Fortnite Skin Checker	5 232 277	2 187 718	2021-06-12 15:09	
•	Apex Checker	36 963 141	35 491 998	2021-06-12 15:09	
: 1	🅌 Apple Valid Emails Checker By X-SLAYER	4 011 845	1 918 236	2021-06-12 15:09	
: 1	Axenta Fortnite Cracker - Cracked by Crank	13 346 687	5 914 653	2021-06-12 15:09	
: 1	Blizzard Checker by RubiconT	16 182 085	4 806 132	2021-06-12 15:09	
: 1	Bonusbitcoin Accounts Checker By X-SLAYER-	3 655 604	1 619 786	2021-06-12 15:09	
: 1	BTC BRUTE CHECKER 3.1	49 450 853	15 818 089	2021-06-12 15:09	
	🌡 BTC clicks Accounts Checker By X-SLAYER	3 585 538	1 530 193	2021-06-12 15:09	:
1 1	♣ Checker N3tflix Cracked BY Scorpio	5 105 861	1 891 684	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1		3 565 381	1 518 073	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1	🅌 Crunchyroll Checker by xRisky	16 569 635	5 557 095	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1	🅌 CyberGhost VPN Checker by xRisky	3 659 679	1 875 829	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1	■ Death By Captcha Accounts Checker By X-SLAYER	4 687 563	2 040 256	2021-06-12 15:09	
: 1	📗 Discord Agora's Token Checker	842 108	440 589	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1		1 029 957	494 909	2021-06-12 15:09	
: 1	📗 Discord Token Checker ULTRA	8 607 748	7 475 996	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1	뷆 Disney Checker	10 985 222	8 676 949	2021-06-12 15:09	
: 1	📗 eBay BruteChecker v2	8 160 069	2 971 944	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1	🅌 ebay Checker Account By X-KILLER	3 780 933	1 616 435	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1	📗 Ebay Register Checker	8 801 132	4 145 348	2021-06-12 15:09	:
	■ EduMail-AccessChecker	26 426 664	23 820 860	2021-06-12 15:09	:
1 1		5 873 385	2 225 743	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1		4 592 515	1 276 922	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1	🊠 Facebook Accounts Checker By X-SLAYER	10 648 705	4 716 351	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1	🅌 Facebook Checkers	21 824 519	5 707 050	2021-06-12 15:09	:
: 1	🕌 Fortlegends Checker [Crack.sx]	8 032 588	3 373 767	2021-06-12 15:09	
: 1	▶ Fortnite Checker F.A.K	31 266 880	8 820 754	2021-06-12 15:09	:
.)	☐ Fortnite Checker Keker 1_0_0_79 ☐ Fortnite Checker Keker 1_0_0_79	4 236 231	1 870 524	2021-06-12 15:09	
	➢ Fortnite Checker OtimCLR3_	3 941 388	1 849 511	2021-06-12 15:09	:
	➢ Fortnite Skinner Checker V1.9.1	2 697 798	1 336 512	2021-06-12 15:09	*
•••	🌃 freebitco.in Checker Account By X-KILLER	3 558 213	1 595 108	2021-06-12 15:09	
1	B Godaddy Checker Cracked	3 411 988	1 189 092	2021-06-12 15:09	27
1	B Godaddy.com REG CHECKER BY ZARAMSIM Fixed By x-slayer.fun	2 885 189	1 778 231	2021-06-12 15:09	-/
	Mark GoldFlix GC Netflix Checker	2 096 669	774 500	2021-06-12 15:09	

- All Mail Brute
- All Mail Checker 3.5.2.3
- All Mail Checker by Sinus 1.4
- Anatomy Fortnite Skin Checker
- Apex Checker
- Apple Valid Emails Checker By X-SLAYER
- Axenta Fortnite Cracker Cracked by Crank
 - Blizzard Checker by RubiconT
 - Bonusbitcoin Accounts Checker By X-SLAYER-
- BTC BRUTE CHECKER 3.1
- BTC clicks Accounts Checker By X-SLAYER

Why - Statistics

- 59% of organizations rely on human memory to manage passwords
- 66% of Americans use the same password across multiple online accounts
- 80% of hacking-related breaches are caused by stolen and reused credentials

Why - Statistics

- An estimated 81% of data breaches are due to poor password security
- 543 million employee credentials for Fortune 1000 companies are circulating on commonly used underground hacking forums

Why - Statistics (H1 2021)

- 90% organizations attacked by either
 - Bruteforce
 - User-enumeration
 - Password Spraying
 - Credential Stuffing
- 11% Success Rate
- Most Affected Industries

Why - Statistics

- 90% organizations attacked by either
- 11% Success Rate
- Most Affected Industries
 - Education
 - Pharmaceuticals
 - Hospitality/Leisure
 - Automotive industries

Why We Need Smartlists?

Its hard to crack long & simple passwords

livelifelikeme08

VS

fqW34mF87u

livelifelikeme08

Rockyou

VS

fqW34mF87u

livelifelikeme08

Rockyou

VS

fqW34mF87u

Random

Which Is Better?

livelifelikeme08



Which Is Better?

livelifelikeme08

Rockyou

VS

fqW34mF87u

Random*

 Every person on earth chooses a password of same keyspace Probability that anyone chose it is ~ 0.00001%

Which Is Better?

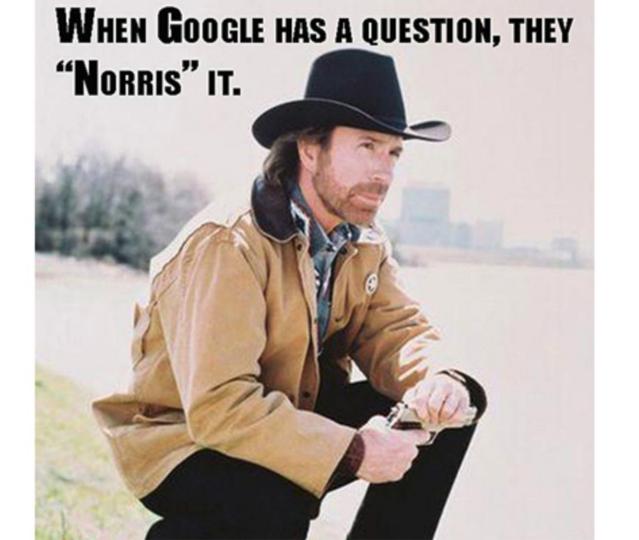
livelifelikeme08

VS

fqW34mF87u

Lets estimate strengths!

Google

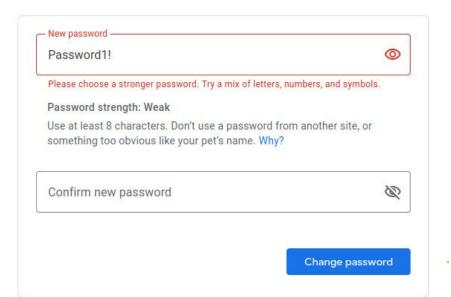


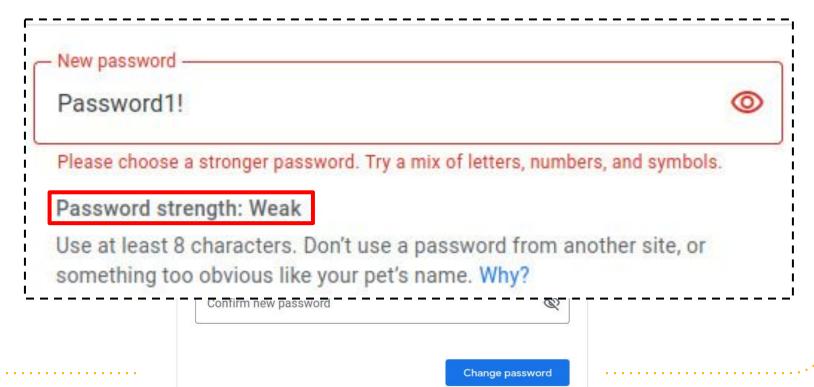
Google

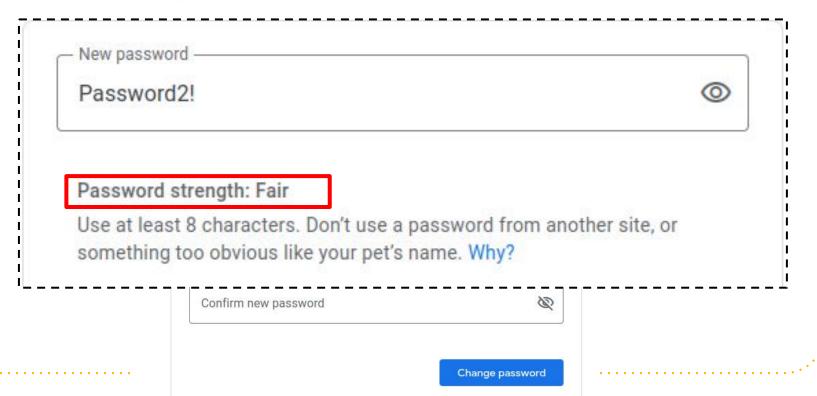
Choose a strong password and don't reuse it for other accounts. Learn more

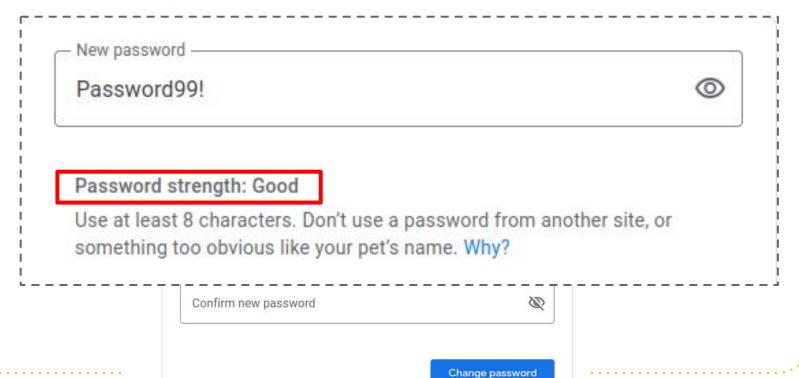
Changing your password will sign you out on your devices, with some exceptions.

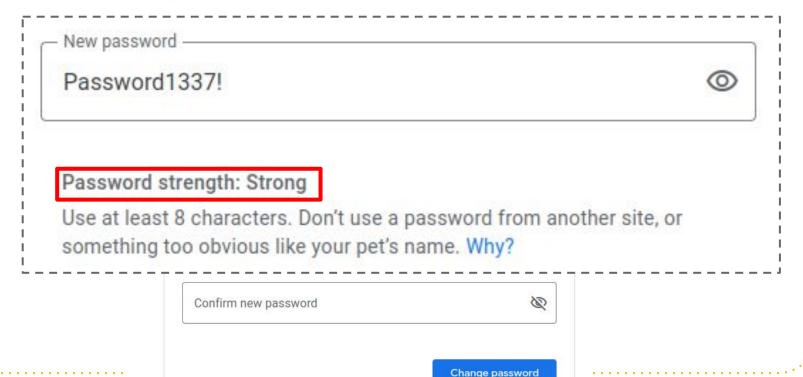
Worried that someone is using your account? You can always check which devices are connected at Your devices.















len(livelifelikeme08)=16

VS

len(fqW34mF87u)=10

cost(livelifelikeme08)=36¹⁶

VS

cost(fqW34mF87u)=6210

36 = 26 lowercase + 10 digits

62 = 26 lowercase + 26 uppercase + 10 digits

cost(livelifelikemeo8)=36¹⁶≈2⁸²

VS

cost(fqW34mF87u)=62¹⁰ × 2⁶⁰

36 = 26 lowercase + 10 digits

62 = 26 lowercase + 26 uppercase + 10 digits

Ĥ(livelifelikeme08)≈82

VS

H(fqW34mF87u)≈60

Ĥ - estimated entropy

Ĥ(livelifelikeme08)≈82

VS

*4.2M

Ĥ(fqW34mF87u)≈60

Ĥ - estimated entropy

- Cracking time calculation:
 - Summit a super computer (#2 on wikipedia)
 - Hardware 27,648 NVIDIA Tesla V100 GPUs
 - SHA1 ~17B hashes/sec per V100 GPU
- Total 470T hashes/sec

- Total 470T hashes/sec
- Cracking 2⁶⁰ 41 mins
- Cracking 282 326 Years

- Total 470T hashes/sec
- Cracking 2⁶⁰ 41 mins
- Cracking 282 326 Years



livelifelikeme08

livelifelikeme08

?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?d?d

Lowercase Digit

cost(livelifelikeme08)=26¹⁴×10²≈2⁷²

Lowercase Digit

Ĥ(livelifelikeme08)≈72

VS

Ĥ(fqW34mF87u)≈60

*40₉₆

Lowercase

Digit

Ĥ - estimated entropy

Ĥ(livelifelikeme08)≈72

VS

Ĥ(fqW34mF87u)≈60



Lowercase

Digit

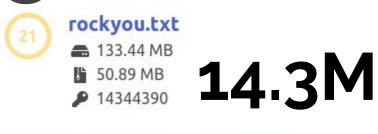
Ĥ - estimated entropy

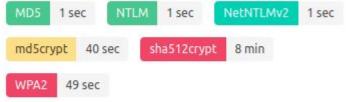
livelifelikeme08

livelifelikeme08

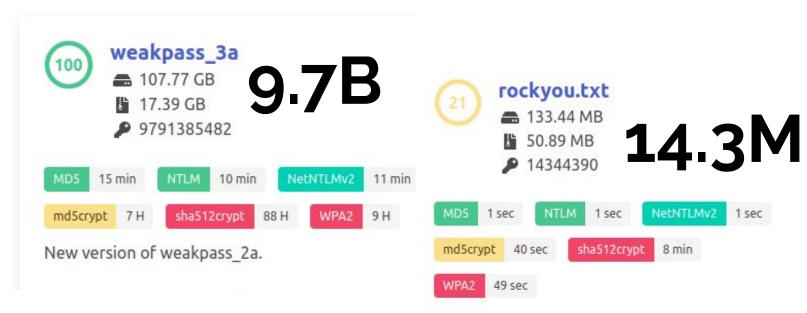
cost(livelifelikeme08)=|W|5

cost(livelifelikeme08)=|W|5=??

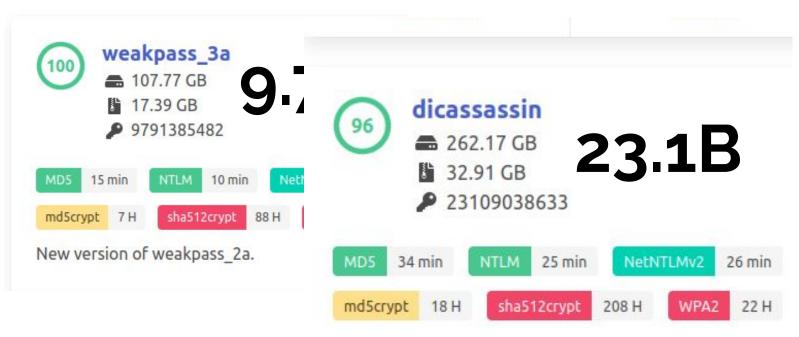




Passwords from SecLists. The Passwords directory will hold a number of password lists that can be used by multiple tools when attempting to guess



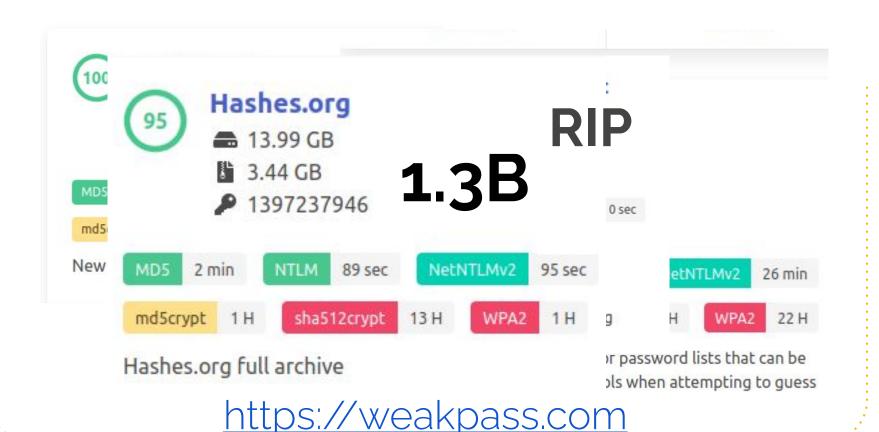
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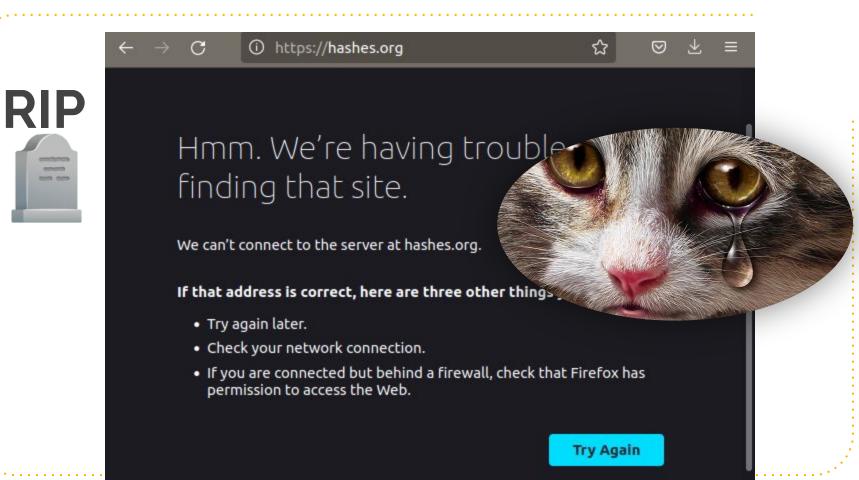


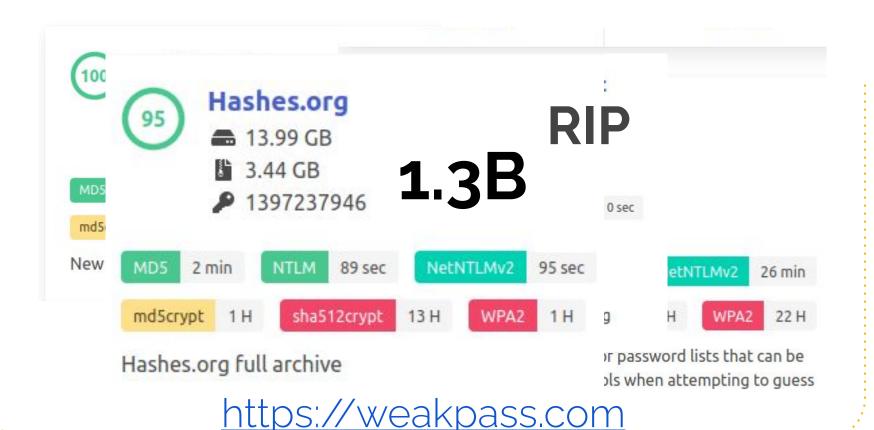
will hold a number of password lists that can be used by multiple tools when attempting to guess



will note a number or password lists that can be used by multiple tools when attempting to guess







cost(livelifelikemeo8)=|W|5=14.3M5≈2119

|W| = 14.3M - Rockyou wordlist

|W| = 14.3M - Rockyou wordlist

cost(livelifelikemeo8)= $|W|^3$ =14.3 M^3 ≈2⁷¹

|W| = 14.3M - Rockyou wordlist

cost(livelifelikemeo8)= |W|5=171k5 287

|W| = 171k - Oxford english head words

Something in the MiddleCharsets **Smartlists** Wordlists

<=256 Single Chars

5k-10M Multi Chars

Common Phrases

100k-10B

Full Words/Pwds

cost(livelifelikemeo8)=|W|5=171k5×287

- What about:
 - Capitalization
 - Symbols
 - Numbers

cost(livelifelikemeo8)= |W|5=171k5 287

|W| = 171k - Oxford english head words

Something in the MiddleCharsets Wordlists

<=256

Single Chars

100k-10B

Full Words/Pwds

livelifelikeme08

livelifelikeme08 livelifelikeme08

5 Subwords
Livelifelikeme08
Livelifelikeme08
3 Subwords

Rockyou Counts

```
#live = 38,877
#life = 65,803
#like = 11,687
#me = 892,403
#08 = 971,690
```

Rockyou Counts

```
#livelife = 792
#likeme = 762
```

cost(livelifelikemeo8)=|W|5=5k5×261

|W| = 5k - Small Smartlist, built from Rockyou "easy" passwords

cost(livelifelikemeo8)=|W|3=50k3×247

|**W| = 50k** - Medium Smartlist, built from Rockyou "easy" passwords

Combining Smartlists

cost(livelikelikemeo8)=

$$cost(?w_1?w_2?d?d) = |W_1|^2 \times |W_2| \times 10^2 \approx 2^{47}$$

```
|W<sub>1</sub>| = 5k - Small Smartlist
|W<sub>2</sub>| = 50k - Medium Smartlist
```

cost(livelifelikemeo8)=|W|³=50|€³≈2⁴⁷

W = 50k - Medium Smartlist, built from Rockyou "easy" passwords

Charset vs Hybrid Mask

livelifelikeme08

?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?d?d

?l - Lowercase letter

?d - Digit

?W_i - Word from Wordlist i

Charset vs Hybrid Mask

livelifelikeme08

```
?w<sub>1</sub>?w<sub>2</sub>?d?d
?w<sub>1</sub>?w<sub>1</sub>?w<sub>1</sub>?w<sub>1</sub>?w<sub>1</sub>
        ?w<sub>1</sub>?w<sub>1</sub>?d?d
   ?w<sub>1</sub>?w<sub>2</sub>?l?l?d?d
         ?w<sub>2</sub>?w<sub>2</sub>?w<sub>3</sub>
```

Which Mask to choose?

The mask with minimal keyspace



Creating Smartlists

Utilizing NLP tokenizers for wordlist generation

NLP Tokenizers

- Traditional NLP models used char / word level encoding
- BPE Byte Pair Encoding, a tokenization algorithm introduced on 2015
 - It uses frequency of subword pairs to create a compact vocabulary of desired size

BPE Demo

123456

1234

1212

password

admin

BPE Demo - Init

```
1,2,3,4,5,6
```

1,2,3,4

1,2,1,2

p,a,s,s,w,o,r,d

BPE Demo - Init

```
Vocab = \{1,2,3,4,5,6,p,a,s,w,o,r,d,m,i,n\}
1,2,3,4,5,6
1,2,3,4
:1,2,1,2
p,a,s,s,w,o,r,d
a,d,m,i,n
```

Vocab = $\{1,2,3,4,5,6,p,a,s,w,o,r,d,m,i,n\}$

Merge The Pair

Vocab = $\{1,2,3,4,5,6,p,a,s,w,o,r,d,m,i,n\}$

12,3,4,5,6

12,3,4

12,12

p,a,s,s,w,o,r,d a,d,m,i,n

Add The Pair To The Vocab

Vocab = {1,2,3,4,5,6,p,a,s,w,o,r,d,m,i,n,**12**}

12,3,4,5,6

12,3,4

12,12

p,a,s,s,w,o,r,d a,d,m,i,n

Vocab = $\{1,2,3,4,5,6,p,a,s,w,o,r,d,m,i,n,12\}$

12,3,4,5,6

12,3,4

12,12

p,a,s,s,w,o,r,d

Vocab = $\{1,2,3,4,5,6,p,a,s,w,o,r,d,m,i,n,12\}$

12,**3,4**,5,6

12,3,4

12,12

p,a,s,s,w,o,r,d

Vocab = $\{1,2,3,4,5,6,p,a,s,w,o,r,d,m,i,n,12\}$

12,3,4,5,6

12,3,4

12,12

p,a,s,s,w,o,r,d

Merge The Pair

Vocab = {1,2,3,4,5,6,p,a,s,w,o,r,d,m,i,n,12}

123,4,5,6

123,4

12,12

p,a,s,s,w,o,r,d

Add The Pair To The Vocab

Vocab = {1,2,3,4,5,6,p,a,s,w,o,r,d,m,i,n,12,**123**}

123,4,5,6

123,4

12,12

p,a,s,s,w,o,r,d

Do Until Desired Vocabulary Size Reached

Building a Smartlist

- Define desired wordlist max size (e.g. 10k)
- Choose one or more algorithms
 - o BPE
 - Unigram
 - Wordpiece
- The resulting vocabulary is our Smartlist

Smartlists Tuning

Experiment #1 - Finding good Smartlist parameters empirically

Masks

Masking Options

```
?d?l?u?s?w1
7 b L!hello
```

Many Options...

- Min String Len [1,2,3,4]
- Max Number Size [Off,4,6]
- Tokenizers [BPE, Unigram, Wordpiece, combination]
- 5K-50M Wordlist Size

The problem



- What to choose?
- How to find what's best for a specific problem

How We Chose?



- Rockyou breach (2009) (32M)
- Tried many wordlist sizes
- Tried all algorithm combinations
- Tried Post Processing options

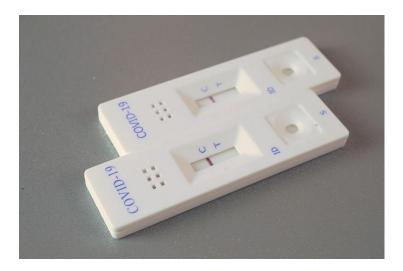
Experiment Setup

- Rockyou Passwords
- Splitted into 2 lists
 - Easy to crack (charset mask keyspace < 2⁴⁰)
 - Hard to crack (charset mask keyspace > 2⁷⁰)

Experiment Setup

- Create Smartlists with different options Using the Easy passwords
- Count the total Hard passwords found in under 2⁵⁰ tries
- Used hybrid masking

Results

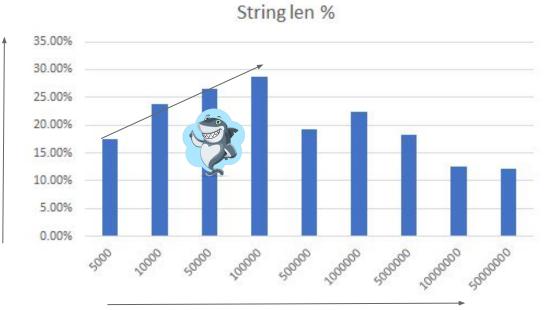


Tokenizers % hard passwords cracked

Unigram	24.18%
Bpe + Unigram	19.80%
Bpe	19.60%
Unigram + Wordpiece	19.60%
Bpe + Unigram + Wordpiece	19.20%
Bpe + Wordpiece	19.16%
Wordpiece	19.14%

Stats

Passwords cracked



Wordlist Size





Definitions:

w1 - 500 most common passwords

w2 - 5k Small Smartlist

w3 - 50k Medium Smartlist

w4 - 5M Large Smartlist

Masks - Hard Passwords

Count	log ₂ (KeySpace)	Hybrid Mask	Example
189	47.14	?w3?w3?l?w2	easyeasyxfind
109	46.38	?w3?w1?w4	easyhardquestions
93	46.17	?w4?b?b?b	questions3X!
106	46.38	?w1?w4?w3	hardquestionseasy
104	46.38	?w4?w3?w1	questionseasyhard
707	49.37	?w4?w3?w2	questionseasyfind

Releasing The Cracken

Cracken Demo

Cracken Commands

- Create creating Smartlists with NLP tokenizers
- Generate Fast hybrid mask (wordlists&charsets) password generator
- Entropy estimating entropy and hybrid masks of passwords (analysis)

Under the Hood

- Cracken is written in Rust
- Cracken is built for speed
 - ~25% faster than hashcat's MaskProcessor
 - MP claims "world's fastest word generator"
- Cracken generates words FAST + #:
 - 2GB/s for Charset masks (no wordlists)
 - 1GB/s for Hybrid masks (wordlists+charsets)

Demo Time

https://github.com/shmuelamar/cracken



Real World Results

Experiment #2 - Cracking never revealed hashes

Xsplit Case

- Xsplit is an unsalted sha1 (2013 3M users)
- Published to the public (2015) OLD!
- Rockyou hybrid masks
- Wordlist: 500, 5K, 50K, 5M
- Removed all found hashes from hashes org
- 3 days on a laptop gpu (2B h/sec)

We let it run for 3 days

And it rained passwords



98% were pre-cracked

- Dealing with the hardest 2%
- Never cracked before

Over 100 cracked!

```
6e51edb0219067a3...:Li` '-
381e1877613f1005...:11
62203519caa3d656...:sr CENSORED 232f0046070
232f00d6078e6ea5...:pr
5152472015e492d4...:da.....da....
```

Results



- Sample of masks that were useful
- Simple, long, uncracked for ~7 years

?w3?l?l?w1?d?d profilextscreen91 leadpaexams87 ?w3?d?d?w2?d?d luck98havana99 nuts67crazy54

Summary

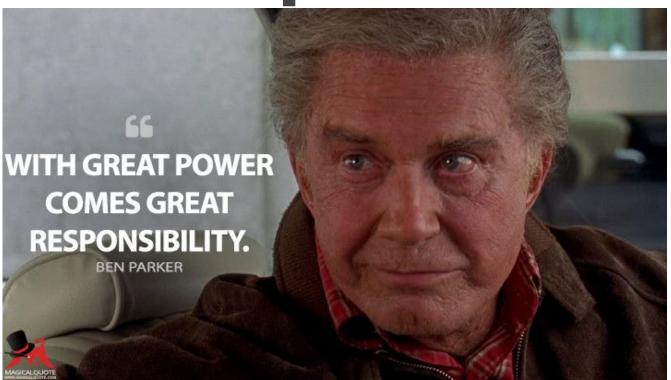
Summary

- Long but simple passwords are crackable
- Use Cracken for:
 - Creating Smartlists
 - Generating wordlists VERY Fast
 - Estimation for password strength with a new approach

What's Next? Chars -> Subwords

- Markov Chains:
 - o p('h'|'t') -> p('world'|'hello')
- Mangling Rules (e.g. toggle case):
 - helloworld123! -> HelloWorld123!
- Replace related subwords:
 - HelloWorld123! -> HiWorld123!
 - HelloBlackhat20 -> ByeDeepsec21

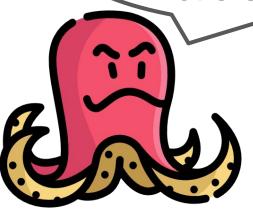
And its Open Source!





Thanks!

Questions?



https://github.com/shmuelamar/cracken