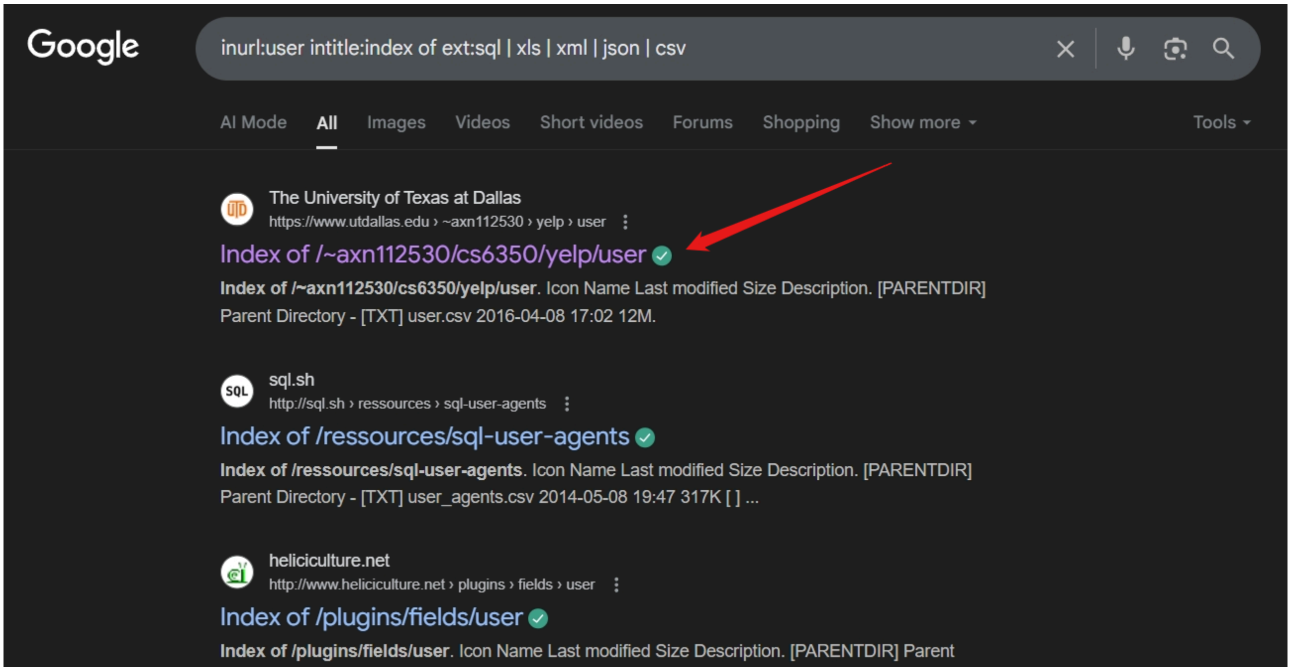
Google Dorking

This document demonstrates how Google Dorking uncovered unintentionally exposed user data in a CSV file on a university server, highlighting a significant cybersecurity oversight.

Step 1: Crafting the Dork Query

I started by entering the following Google dork into the search bar:

inurl:user intitle:index of ext:sql | xls | xml | json | csv



inurl:user intitle:index of ext:sql | xls | xml | json | csv

The University of Texas at Dallas
https://www.utdallas.edu › ~axn112530 › yelp › user

Index of /~axn112530/cs6350/yelp/user

Index of /~axn112530/cs6350/yelp/user. Icon Name Last modified Size Description. [PARENTDIR] Parent Directory - [TXT] user.csv 2016-04-08 17:02 12M.

sql.sh
http://sql.sh › ressources › sql-user-agents

Index of /ressources/sql-user-agents

Index of /ressources/sql-user-agents. Icon Name Last modified Size Description. [PARENTDIR] Parent Directory - [TXT] user_agents.csv 2014-05-08 19:47 317K [ ] ...

heliciculture.net
http://www.heliciculture.net › plugins › fields › user

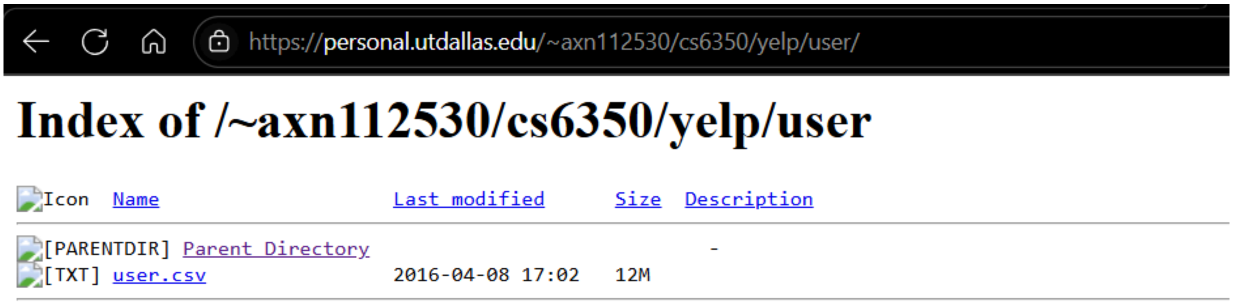
Index of /plugins/fields/user

Index of /plugins/fields/user. Icon Name Last modified Size Description. [PARENTDIR] Parent

From the results, one particular link stood out:

Index of /~axn112530/cs6350/yelp/user

The domain belonged to **The University of Texas at Dallas**, indicating a student or course-based directory.



https://personal.utdallas.edu/~axn112530/cs6350/yelp/user/

Index of /~axn112530/cs6350/yelp/user

```
Icon  Name                       Last modified       Size  Description
[PARENTDIR] Parent Directory                            -
[TXT] user.csv                  2016-04-08 17:02    12M
```

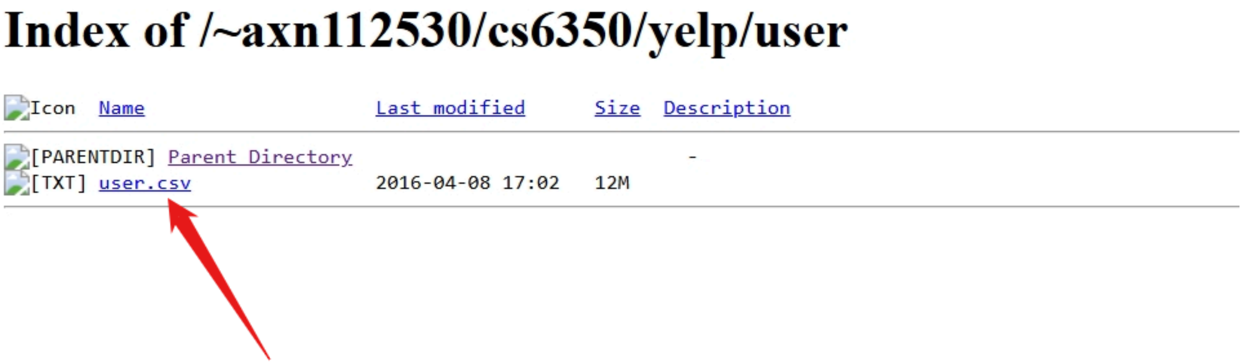
Step 2: Visiting the Open Directory

I clicked on the link, which led me to a raw **index page** showing a list of files.

Index of /~axn112530/cs6350/yelp/user

There was a file named:

user.csv



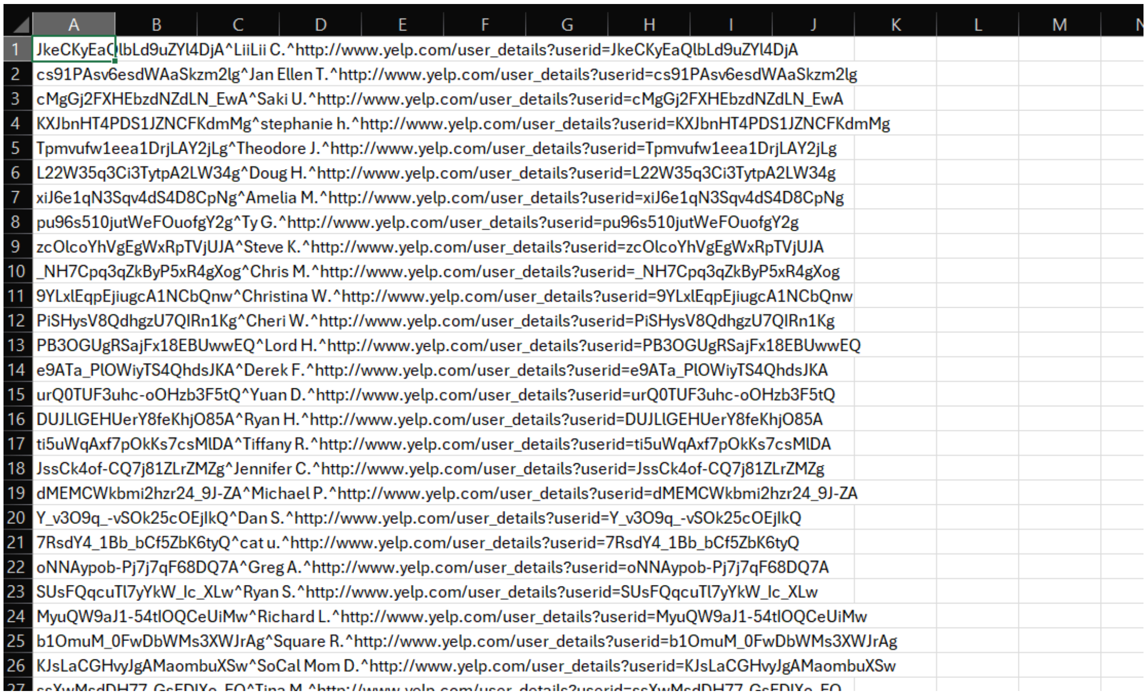
Index of /~axn112530/cs6350/yelp/user

Icon	Name	Last modified	Size	Description
[PARENTDIR]	Parent Directory		-	
[TXT]	user.csv	2016-04-08 17:02	12M	

The page had no login or protection — it was a simple file listing with metadata like size (12M) and date (2016-04-08).

Step 3: Observing the File Structure

I downloaded and opened the CSV file using a spreadsheet viewer.

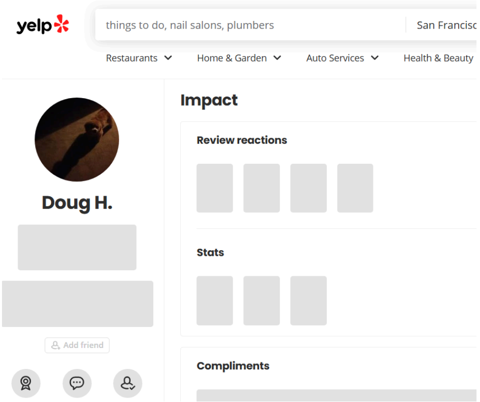


	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	JkeCKyEaQlbLd9uZYl4DjA^LiiLii C.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=JkeCKyEaQlbLd9uZYl4DjA												
2	cs91PAsv6esdWAaSkzm2lg^Jan Ellen T.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=cs91PAsv6esdWAaSkzm2lg												
3	cMgGj2FXHEbzdNZdLN_EwA^Saki U.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=cMgGj2FXHEbzdNZdLN_EwA												
4	KXJbnHT4PDS1JZNCFKdmMg^stephanie h.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=KXJbnHT4PDS1JZNCFKdmMg												
5	Tpmvufw1eea1DrjLAY2jLg^Theodore J.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=Tpmvufw1eea1DrjLAY2jLg												
6	L22W35q3Ci3TytpA2LW34g^Doug H.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=L22W35q3Ci3TytpA2LW34g												
7	xiJ6e1qN3Sqv4dS4D8CpNg^Amelia M.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=xiJ6e1qN3Sqv4dS4D8CpNg												
8	pu96s510jutWeFOuofgY2g^Ty G.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=pu96s510jutWeFOuofgY2g												
9	zcOlcoYhVgEgWxRpTVjUJA^Steve K.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=zcOlcoYhVgEgWxRpTVjUJA												
10	_NH7Cpq3qZkByP5xR4gXog^Chris M.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=_NH7Cpq3qZkByP5xR4gXog												
11	9YLxlEqpEjiugcA1NCbQnw^Christina W.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=9YLxlEqpEjiugcA1NCbQnw												
12	PiSHysV8QdhgzU7QIRn1Kg^Cheri W.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=PiSHysV8QdhgzU7QIRn1Kg												
13	PB3OGUgRSajFx18EBUwwEQ^Lord H.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=PB3OGUgRSajFx18EBUwwEQ												
14	e9ATa_PlOWiyTS4QhdsJKA^Derek F.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=e9ATa_PlOWiyTS4QhdsJKA												
15	urQ0TUF3uhc-oOHzb3F5tQ^Yuan D.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=urQ0TUF3uhc-oOHzb3F5tQ												
16	DUJLlGEHUerY8feKhjO85A^Ryan H.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=DUJLlGEHUerY8feKhjO85A												
17	ti5uWqAxf7pOkKs7csMlDA^Tiffany R.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=ti5uWqAxf7pOkKs7csMlDA												
18	JssCk4of-CQ7j81ZLrZMZg^Jennifer C.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=JssCk4of-CQ7j81ZLrZMZg												
19	dMEMCWkbmi2hzr24_9J-ZA^Michael P.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=dMEMCWkbmi2hzr24_9J-ZA												
20	Y_v3O9q_-vSOk25cOEjlkQ^Dan S.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=Y_v3O9q_-vSOk25cOEjlkQ												
21	7RsdY4_1Bb_bCf5ZbK6tyQ^cat u.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=7RsdY4_1Bb_bCf5ZbK6tyQ												
22	oNNAypob-Pj7j7qF68DQ7A^Greg A.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=oNNAypob-Pj7j7qF68DQ7A												
23	SUsFQqcuTl7yYkW_lc_XLw^Ryan S.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=SUsFQqcuTl7yYkW_lc_XLw												
24	MyuQW9aJ1-54tlOQCeUiMw^Richard L.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=MyuQW9aJ1-54tlOQCeUiMw												
25	b1OmuM_0FwDbWMs3XWJrAg^Square R.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=b1OmuM_0FwDbWMs3XWJrAg												
26	KJsLaCGHvyJgAMaombuXSw^SoCal Mom D.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=KJsLaCGHvyJgAMaombuXSw												
27	ssXwMsdDH77_GsFDlXo_FQ^Tina M.^http://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=ssXwMsdDH77_GsFDlXo_FQ												

The file had multiple columns, including unique IDs, user names, and what looked like Yelp profile links.

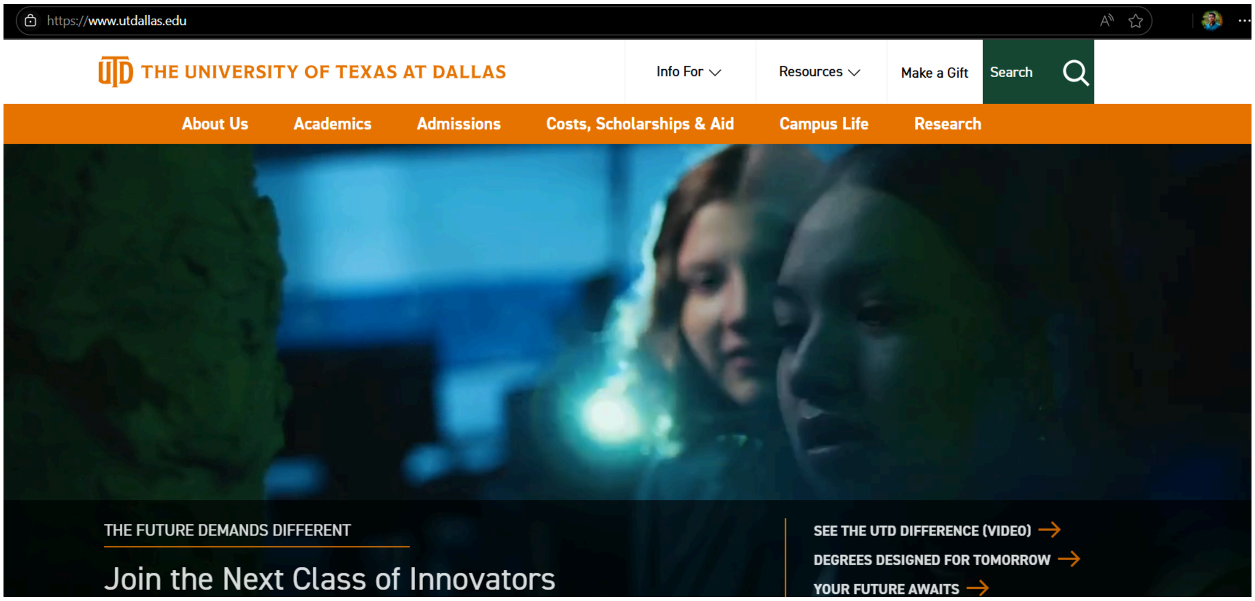
Step 4: Verifying a Single Entry

To test if the entries were real, I copy-pasted one of the profile links into a browser — specifically for **Doug H.**The page loaded successfully, matching the data from the CSV file.



Step 5: Checking the Source Domain

Finally, I visited the home page of the domain:https://www.utdallas.edu to confirm that the file was hosted under a university domain.


https://www.utdallas.edu
UTD THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS
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Campus Life
Research
THE FUTURE DEMANDS DIFFERENT
Join the Next Class of Innovators
SEE THE UTD DIFFERENCE (VIDEO)
DEGREES DESIGNED FOR TOMORROW
YOUR FUTURE AWAITS

This verified that the source was an academic server.