

Day - 6 of CEH

The objective of **Day-6** is to understand **Metadata**, its importance in **Ethical Hacking**, and to gain hands-on exposure to **information gathering (reconnaissance) tools** such as **ExifTool, Metagoofil, theHarvester, and Shodan**.

This session focuses on how **hidden data inside files, documents, and online services** can unintentionally expose sensitive information and how ethical hackers analyze this data responsibly to improve security.

1. Metadata

Metadata refers to *data about data*. It is automatically generated information stored within digital files such as images, PDFs, Word documents, videos, and spreadsheets.



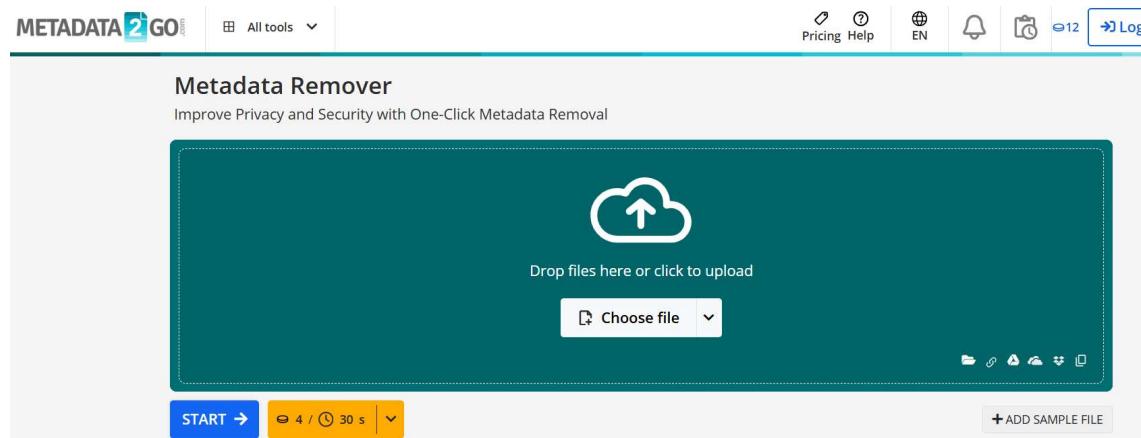
Examples of Metadata

- Author or creator name
- File creation and modification dates
- Software and operating system used
- GPS coordinates (in images taken by mobile phones or cameras)
- Device, camera, or smartphone model

Metadata Remover

A **Metadata Remover** is a tool or technique used to **remove hidden metadata information** from digital files such as images, PDFs, Word documents, and videos.

Removing metadata helps protect **privacy, confidentiality, and security** by preventing unintended information disclosure.



The screenshot shows the homepage of Metadata2Go. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'Pricing', 'Help', 'EN' (language), a notification bell, a user icon, and a 'Log In' button. Below the header, the main title 'Metadata Remover' is displayed, followed by the subtitle 'Improve Privacy and Security with One-Click Metadata Removal'. The central feature is a large teal-colored upload area with a white cloud icon containing an upward arrow. Below the icon, the text 'Drop files here or click to upload' is visible. To the right of the upload area is a 'Choose file' button with a dropdown arrow. At the bottom of the teal area, there are several small icons representing different file types. Below this section, there's a blue 'START →' button, a progress bar indicating '4 / 30 s', and a '+ ADD SAMPLE FILE' button. The overall interface is clean and modern, designed for easy file processing.

What Metadata Removers Do

Metadata removers are used to:

- Delete author and creator information
- Remove GPS location data from images
- Erase device or camera details
- Clear software and system information
- Sanitize documents before public sharing

Importance in Ethical Hacking

Metadata plays a crucial role during the **reconnaissance phase** of ethical hacking because it can unintentionally disclose sensitive organizational details.

Metadata analysis helps to:

- Identify employee names and usernames
- Discover software versions and platforms in use
- Reveal internal directory paths and file structures
- Expose geographic location information
- Assist in ethical social engineering assessments

2. ExifTool

ExifTool is a powerful command-line utility used to read, write, and analyze metadata from various file formats including images, videos, PDFs, and documents.

Basic ExifTool Command

```
exiftool image.jpg
```

```
[user@parrot] -[~/Downloads]
└─ $ exiftool IMG_20260103_161809.jpg
ExifTool Version Number      : 12.16
File Name                   : IMG_20260103_161809.jpg
Directory                   :
File Size                    : 2.2 MiB
File Modification Date/Time : 2026:01:06 20:18:12+05:30
File Access Date/Time       : 2026:01:06 20:18:12+05:30
File Inode Change Date/Time: 2026:01:06 20:18:12+05:30
File Permissions            : rw-r--r--
File Type                   : JPEG
File Type Extension         : jpg
MIME Type                   : image/jpeg
Exif Byte Order              : Big-endian (Motorola, MM)
Camera Model Name           : iQOO Neo7 Pro
Modify Date                 : 2026:01:03 16:18:09
Y Cb Cr Positioning        : Centered
Maker Note Unknown Text     : 0
ISO                         : 50
Exposure Program            : Program AE
F Number                     : 2.0
Exposure Time               : 1/338
Sensing Method               : One-chip color area
Sub Sec Time Digitized     : 843
Offset Time Original         : +05:30
Sub Sec Time Original       : 843
Offset Time                  : +05:30
```

Information Extracted

- Camera or mobile device model
- Date and time of image capture
- GPS latitude and longitude
- File size, format, and encoding details

Use Case

ExifTool is commonly used to analyze images downloaded from websites, emails, or social media platforms to identify **metadata leakage** that may reveal sensitive personal or organizational information.

```
Red Matrix Column      : 0.51512 0.2412 -0.00105
Green Matrix Column   : 0.29198 0.69225 0.04189
Blue Matrix Column    : 0.1571 0.06657 0.78407
Red Tone Reproduction Curve
Chromatic Adaptation  : (Binary data 32 bytes, use -b option to extract)
Blue Tone Reproduction Curve : 1.04788 0.02292 -0.0502 0.02959 0.99048 -0.01706 -0.00923 0.01508 0.75168
Green Tone Reproduction Curve : (Binary data 32 bytes, use -b option to extract)
Image Width           : (Binary data 32 bytes, use -b option to extract)
Image Height          : 2296
Image Height          : 4080
Encoding Process      : Baseline DCT, Huffman coding
Bits Per Sample        : 8
Color Components       : 3
Y Cb Cr Sub Sampling  : YCbCr4:2:0 (2 2)
Aperture               : 2.0
Image Size             : 2296x4080
Megapixels              : 9.4
Scale Factor To 35 mm Equivalent: 4.1
Shutter Speed          : 1/338
Create Date            : 2026:01:03 16:18:09.843
Date/Time Original     : 2026:01:03 16:18:09.843+05:30
Modify Date            : 2026:01:03 16:18:09.843+05:30
Thumbnail Image        : (Binary data 11835 bytes, use -b option to extract)
GPS Date/Time          : 00:00:00Z
GPS Latitude           :
GPS Longitude          :
Circle Of Confusion    : 0.007 mm
Field Of View          : 76.1 deg
Focal Length            : 5.6 mm (35 mm equivalent: 23.0 mm)
Hyperfocal Distance    : 2.13 m
Light Value             : 11.4
```

3. **gofile.io – Image Download Process**

gofile.io is a free file-sharing platform that allows users to upload and download files without mandatory registration.

Steps to Download an Image

1. Open a web browser and visit **gofile.io**
2. Access the shared download link
3. Select the required image file
4. Click on **Download**
5. Save the image to the local system
6. Analyze the downloaded image using **ExifTool**

Purpose

The downloaded images are analyzed to check for **metadata exposure**, such as GPS location, device details, and timestamps, which could pose privacy or security risks.

4. Metagoofil

Metagoofil is a Kali Linux-based reconnaissance tool used to extract metadata from **publicly available documents** belonging to a specific domain.

Installing Metagoofil

```
sudo apt install metagoofil
```

```
[user@parrot]~[~/Downloads]
└─$ sudo apt install metagoofil
[sudo] password for user:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
  python3-googlesearch
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  metagoofil python3-googlesearch
0 upgraded, 2 newly installed, 0 to remove and 2389 not upgraded.
Need to get 60.7 kB of archives.
After this operation, 208 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Do you want to continue? [Y/n] y
Get:1 https://deb.parrot.sh/parrot lorry/main amd64 python3-googlesearch all 2.0.3-0parrot1 [45.2 kB]
Get:2 https://deb.parrot.sh/parrot lorry/main amd64 metagoofil all 1:1.2.0+git20221009-0parrot1 [15.5 kB]
Fetched 60.7 kB in 1s (70.3 kB/s)
Selecting previously unselected package python3-googlesearch.
(Reading database ... 436579 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack .../python3-googlesearch_2.0.3-0parrot1_all.deb ...
Unpacking python3-googlesearch (2.0.3-0parrot1) ...
Selecting previously unselected package metagoofil.
Preparing to unpack .../metagoofil_1~3a1.2.0+git20221009-0parrot1_all.deb ...
Unpacking metagoofil (1:1.2.0+git20221009-0parrot1) ...
Setting up python3-googlesearch (2.0.3-0parrot1) ...
Setting up metagoofil (1:1.2.0+git20221009-0parrot1) ...
Scanning application launchers
Removing duplicate launchers or broken launchers
Launchers are updated
```

Help Command

```
sudo metagoofil --help
```

```
[user@parrot]~[~]
└─$ sudo metagoofil --help
usage: metagoofil.py [-h] -d DOMAIN [-e DELAY] [-f [SAVE_FILE]] [-i URL_TIMEOUT] [-l SEARCH_MAX] [-n DOWNLOAD_FILE_LIMIT] [-o SAVE_DIRECTORY] [-r NUMBER_OF_THREADS]
                     [-u [USER_AGENT]] [-w]

Metagoofil v1.2.0 - Search Google and download specific file types.

optional arguments:
  -h, --help            show this help message and exit
  -d DOMAIN             Domain to search.
  -e DELAY              Delay (in seconds) between searches. If it's too small Google may block your IP, too big and your search may take a while. Default: 30.0
  -f [SAVE_FILE]         Save the html links to a file.
                        no -f = Do not save links
                        -f = Save links to html links <TIMESTAMP>.txt
                        -f SAVE_FILE = Save links to SAVE_FILE
  -i URL_TIMEOUT        Number of seconds to wait before timeout for unreachable/stale pages. Default: 15
  -l SEARCH_MAX          Maximum results to search. Default: 100
  -n DOWNLOAD_FILE_LIMIT
                        Maximum number of files to download per filetype. Default: 100
  -o SAVE_DIRECTORY      Directory to save downloaded files. Default is current working directory, "."
  -r NUMBER_OF_THREADS   Number of downloader threads. Default: 8
  -t FILE_TYPES          file_types to download (pdf,doc,xls,ppt,odp,ods,docx,xlsx,pptx). To search all 17,576 three-letter file extensions, type "ALL"
  -u [USER_AGENT]         User-Agent for file retrieval against -d domain.
                        no -u = "Mozilla/5.0 (compatible; Googlebot/2.1; +http://www.google.com/bot.html)"
                        -u = Randomize User-Agent
                        -u "My custom user agent 2.0" = Your customized User-Agent
  -w                    Download the files, instead of just viewing search results.
```

Targeted Command Used

```
sudo metagoofil -d vignaniit.edu.in -l 10 -n 10 -t pdf,xls,xlsx -w
```

```
[user@parrot]~[-]
└─$ sudo metagoofil -d vignaniit.edu.in -l 2 -n 2 -t pdf,docx -w
[*] Downloaded files will be saved here: /home/user
[*] Searching for 2 .pdf files and waiting 30.0 seconds between searches
[*] Searching for 2 .docx files and waiting 30.0 seconds between searches
[+] Total download: 0 bytes / 0.00 KB / 0.00 MB
[+] Done!
```

Explanation

- **-d** → Specifies the target domain
- **-l 10** → Limits the number of search engine results
- **-n 10** → Number of files to download
- **-t** → File types to search (pdf, xls, xlsx)
- **-w** → Generates an HTML report

Information Collected

- Author and employee names
- Usernames and email IDs
- Software and application details
- Internal file paths and document structure

Insecam

:contentReference[oaicite:0]{index=0} is a publicly accessible website that indexes **open and unsecured IP cameras** available on the internet.

It is commonly referenced in **cyber security awareness and OSINT studies** to demonstrate the risks of misconfigured devices.

Purpose of Insecam

Insecam is used for **educational and awareness purposes** to show how improperly secured cameras can expose live video feeds to anyone on the internet.

Its main goals are to:

- Highlight the importance of securing IoT and IP camera devices
- Demonstrate real-world impacts of weak or default credentials
- Promote cyber security awareness among users and organizations

Type of Devices Shown

The platform may list publicly exposed:

- Home surveillance cameras
- Office and shop security cameras
- Baby monitors
- Traffic and public area cameras

These devices are visible **only because they are misconfigured or left unsecured.**

Security Risks Demonstrated



Insecam clearly shows the dangers of poor security practices, such as:

- Using default usernames and passwords
- Not enabling authentication on IP cameras
- Exposing cameras directly to the internet
- Lack of firmware updates and security patches

Such issues can lead to **privacy violations and unauthorized monitoring.**

Country:	Global webcam directory	United States
Country code:		US
Region:		New York
City:		Albany
Latitude:		42.650360
Longitude:		-73.754810
ZIP:		12207
Timezone:		-05:00
Manufacturer:		Axis

Importance in Ethical Hacking & OSINT

From an ethical hacking perspective, Insecam helps learners understand:

- How exposed IoT devices can be discovered through OSINT
- The consequences of misconfiguration in real-world systems
- Why device hardening and access control are critical

It is mainly used in **defensive security learning**, not for exploitation.



5. theHarvester

theHarvester is an **Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT)** tool used for gathering publicly available information related to a domain.

Usage

- Performs passive reconnaissance
 - Collects data without directly interacting with the target
 - Uses public sources such as search engines and databases

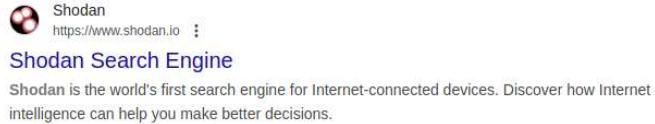
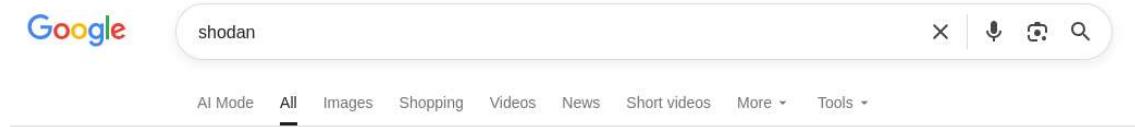
Collected Data

- Email addresses
 - Subdomains
 - IP addresses
 - Hostnames

This information helps in understanding the **digital footprint** of an organization.

6. Shodan

Shodan is a specialized search engine designed to discover **Internet-connected devices and services**.



Login Process

1. Visit **shodan.io**
2. Click **Sign Up / Login**
3. Register using an email address
4. Log in to access advanced search filters



Search Filters Used

- port:20 → Identifies FTP services
- country:IN → Filters results from India

Shodan | Maps | Images | Monitor | Developer | More... |

 SHODAN | Explore | Downloads | Pricing ↗ | Search

TOTAL RESULTS

38

TOP CITIES

Mumbai 33

Pune 3

Ahmedabad 1

Chennai 1

TOP PORTS

8081 3

80 2

81 2

443 2

7547 2

[More...](#)

View Report

View on Map

Advanced Search

Product Spotlight: We've Launched a new API for Fast Vulnerability Lookups. Check out [CVEDB](#)

45.79.126.133 ↗

45.79-126-133.ip.linodeusercontent.

com

Linode

India, Mumbai

cloud

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Server: 360 web server, 792/71644 HTTP Server version 2.0 - TELDAT S.A., A10WS/1.00, ADB Broadband HTTP

172.105.49.121 ↗

i2030-121.members.linode.com

Linode

India, Mumbai

cloud honeypot

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Server: 360 web server, 792/71644 HTTP Server version 2.0 - TELDAT S.A., A10WS/1.00, ADB Broadband HTTP

172.105.49.121 ↗

i2030-121.members.linode.com

Linode

India, Mumbai

cloud honeypot

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Server: 360 web server, 792/71644 HTTP Server version 2.0 - TELDAT S.A., A10WS/1.00, ADB Broadband HTTP

TOP ORGANIZATIONS

- apache → Finds servers running Apache
- city:chennai → Devices located in Chennai

SHODAN | Explore | Downloads | Pricing ↗ | Search

TOTAL RESULTS

518,477

TOP PORTS

80	121,460
443	74,440
161	31,357
22	11,186
123	9,963

[More...](#)

TOP ORGANIZATIONS

Akamai Technologies, Inc.	138,607
CDNetworks	80,312
Microsoft Corporation	36,649
Linode	27,316
CDNetworks Inc	13,280

View Report Browse Images View on Map Advanced Search

Product Spotlight: We've Launched a new API for Fast Vulnerability Lookups. Check out [CVEDB](#)

137.97.4.178 ↗

Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited

India, Chennai

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Date: Tue, 06 Jan 2026 11:48:25 GMT

Last-Modified: Wed, 04 Jun 2025 02:06:05 GMT

Etag: "683faa0d.10830"

Content-Type: text/html

Content-Length: 10830

Connection: keep-alive

Accept-Ranges: bytes

X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff

X-Frame-Options: SAMEORIGIN

X-xss-protection:...

115.111.91.8

115.111.91.8.static-hyderabad.vsn

l.net.in

Internet Service Provider

India, Chennai

SNMP:

Engine Versions:

3

Engine Boots: 22

Enginid Data: 80001f88804aca4d77d92a5162

Enterprise: 8072

Engine Time: 17 days, 1:28:20

Enterprise Name: net-snmp

- camera → Internet-connected cameras

137.97.4.178

Regular View | Raw Data | Timeline | Whois | OpenMapTiles Satellite | MapTiles | OpenStreetMap contributors | LAST SEEN 2026-01-06

General Information

Country: India

City: Chennai

Organization: Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited

ISP: Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited

ASN: AS55836

Open Ports

88

88 / TCP ↗

<empty title>

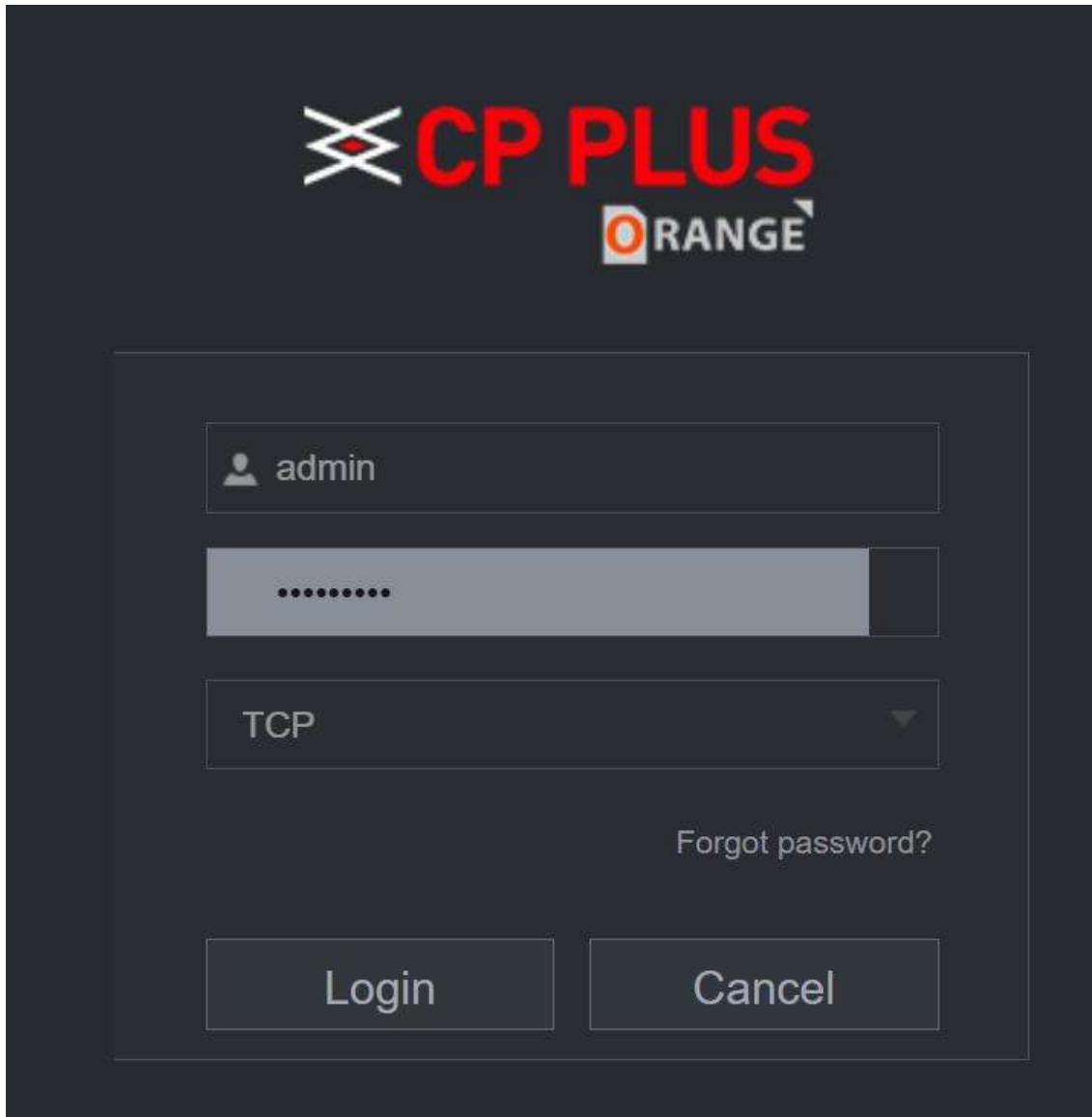
```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Tue, 06 Jan 2026 11:48:25 GMT
Last-Modified: Wed, 04 Jun 2025 02:06:05 GMT
Etag: "683faa0d.10830"
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 10830
Connection: keep-alive
Accept-Ranges: bytes
X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
X-Frame-Options: SAMEORIGIN
X-xss-protection: 1; mode=block
```

CP PLUS ORANGE – Camera Login Interface

The above image shows the **CP PLUS ORANGE IP Camera login interface**, which is used to access and manage live camera feeds and settings.

Description

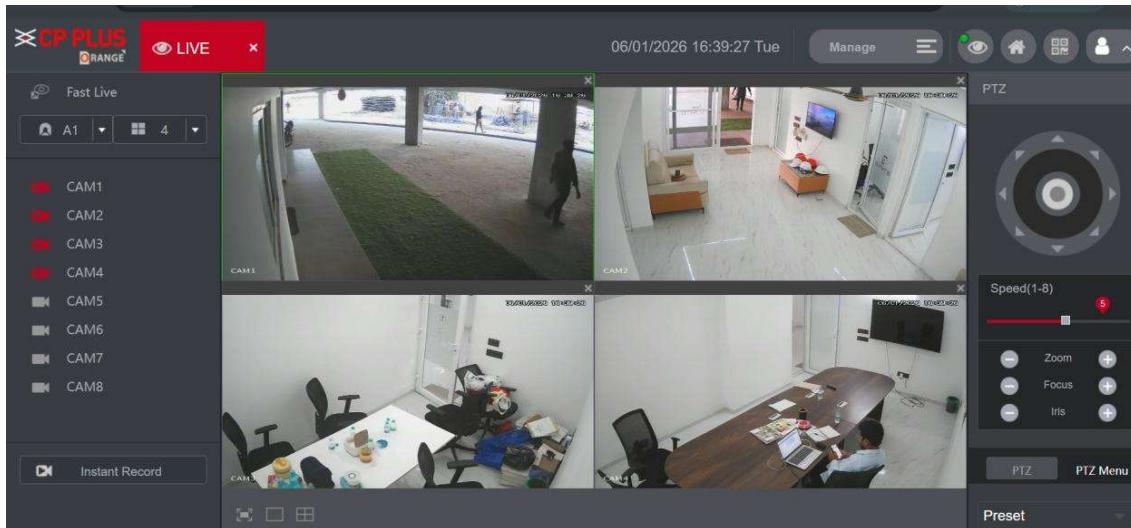
- The login screen requires a **username** and **password**
- Default user shown is **admin**
- Supports connection over **TCP protocol**
- Provides options such as **Login**, **Cancel**, and **Forgot password**
- Used for configuring and viewing surveillance cameras



Purpose

Shodan helps ethical hackers and security teams to:

- Identify exposed services
- Detect misconfigured systems
- Discover vulnerable or unsecured devices



7. Key Learnings (Day-6)

- Gained a clear understanding of **Metadata** and its security implications
- Learned how metadata can unintentionally expose sensitive information
- Practiced metadata extraction using **ExifTool**
- Downloaded and analyzed files from **gofile.io**
- Installed and executed **Metagoofil** to extract document metadata
- Performed passive reconnaissance using **theHarvester**
- Used **Shodan search filters** to identify exposed services and devices
- Understood the importance of **ethical and legal boundaries** in information gathering