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.

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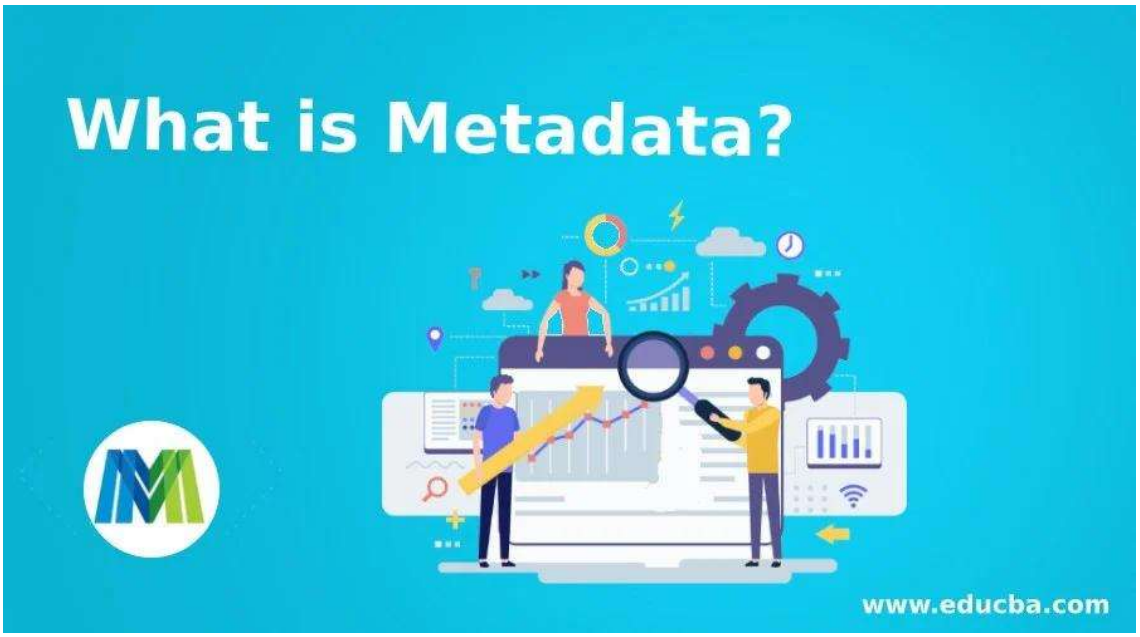
1. Metadata

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



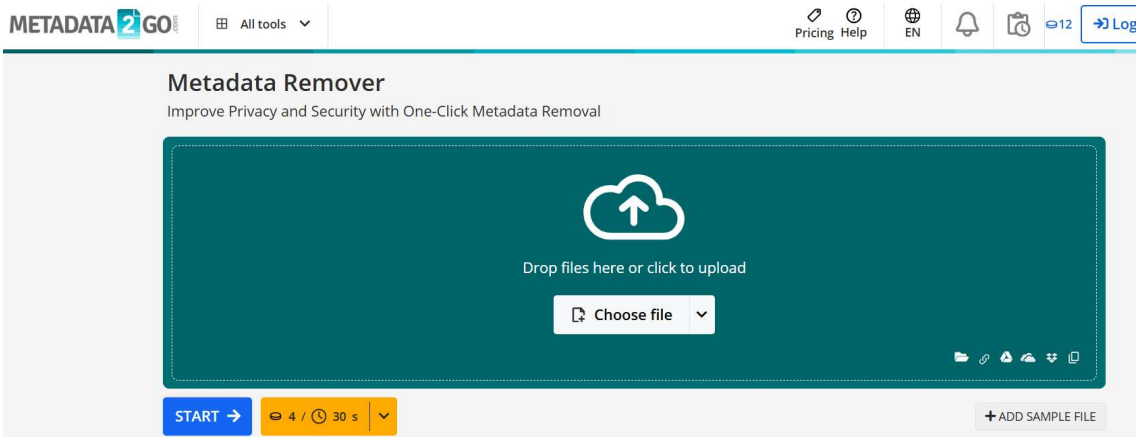
Examples of Metadata

- 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.



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

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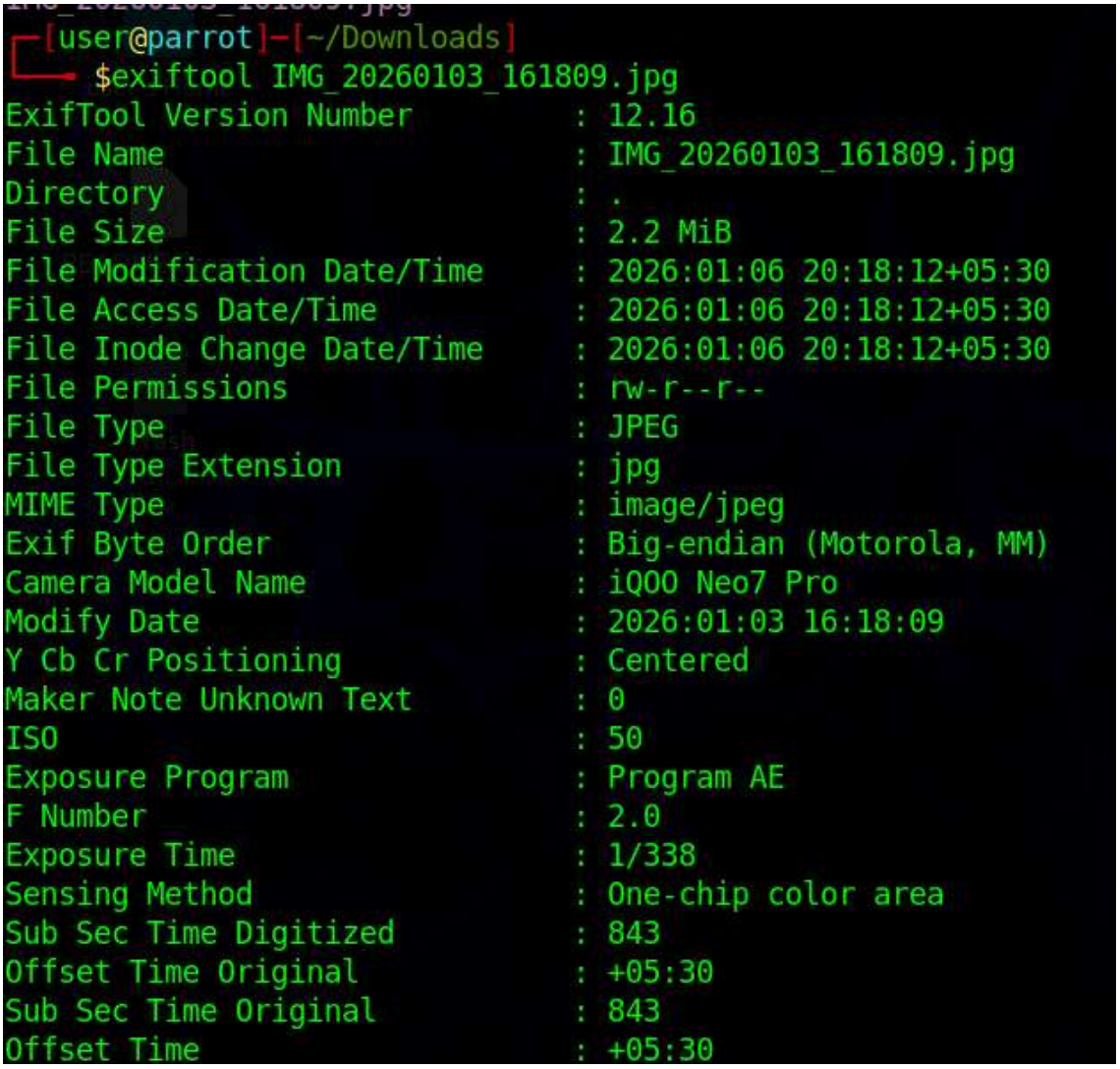
2. ExifTool

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

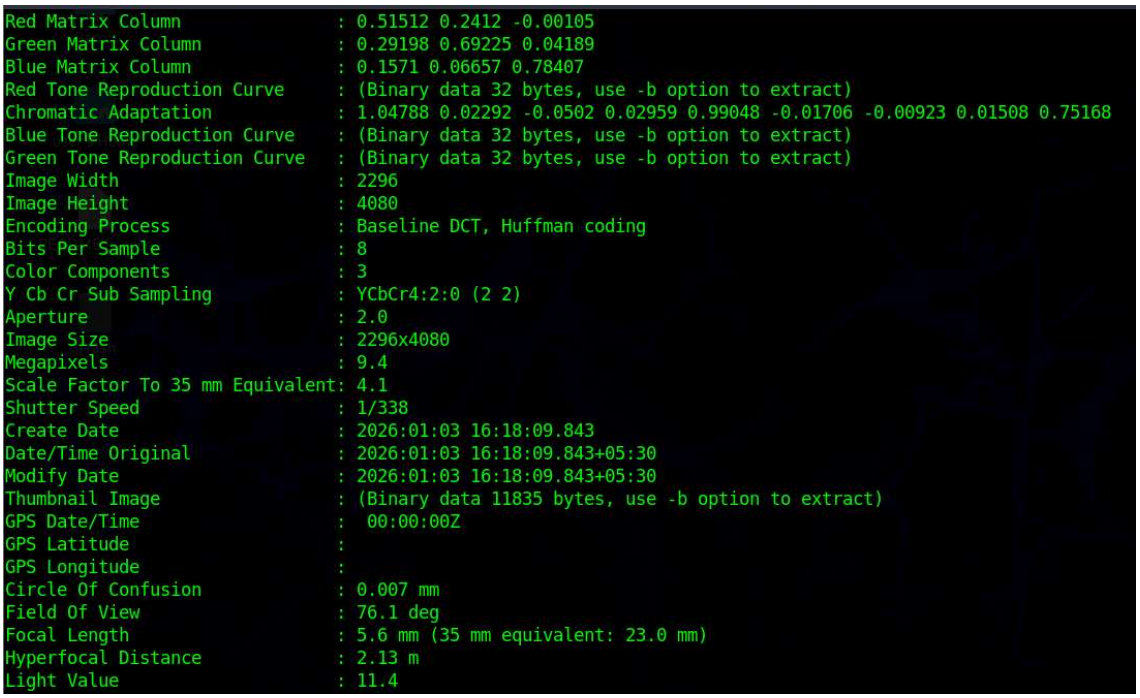


Information Extracted

- 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     : (Binary data 32 bytes, use -b option to extract)
Chromatic Adaptation            : 1.04788 0.02292 -0.0502 0.02959 0.99048 -0.01706 -0.00923 0.01508 0.75168
Blue Tone Reproduction Curve    : (Binary data 32 bytes, use -b option to extract)
Green Tone Reproduction Curve   : (Binary data 32 bytes, use -b option to extract)
Image Width                     : 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
```

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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.

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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 lory/main amd64 python3-googlesearch all 2.0.3-0parrot1 [45.2 kB]
Get:2 https://deb.parrot.sh/parrot lory/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

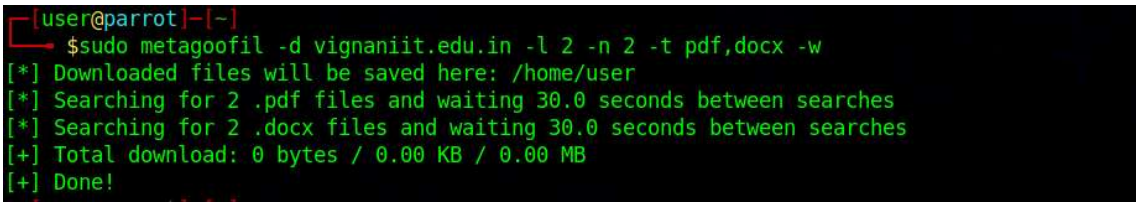
```
┌─[user@parrot]─[~]
└──╼ $sudo metagoofil --help
usage: metagoofil.py [-h] -d DOMAIN [-e DELAY] [-f [SAVE_FILE]] [-i URL_TIMEOUT] [-l SEARCH_MAX] [-n DOWNLOAD_FILE_LIMIT] [-o SAVE_DIRECTORY] [-r NUMBER_OF_THREADS]
                     [-t FILE_TYPES] [-u [USER_AGENT]] [-w]

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



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

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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

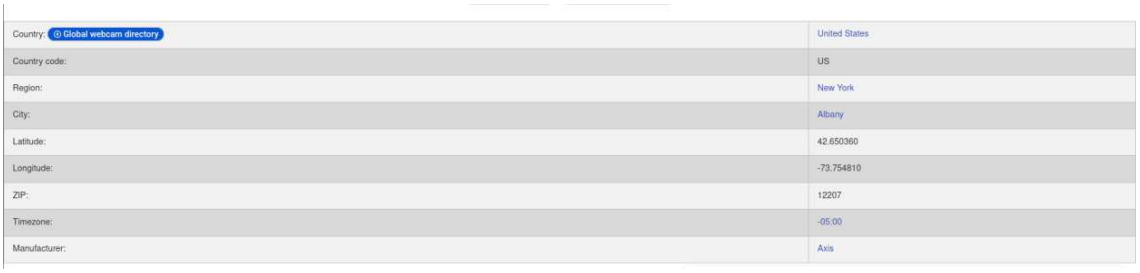
These devices are visible **only because they are misconfigured or left unsecured**.

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

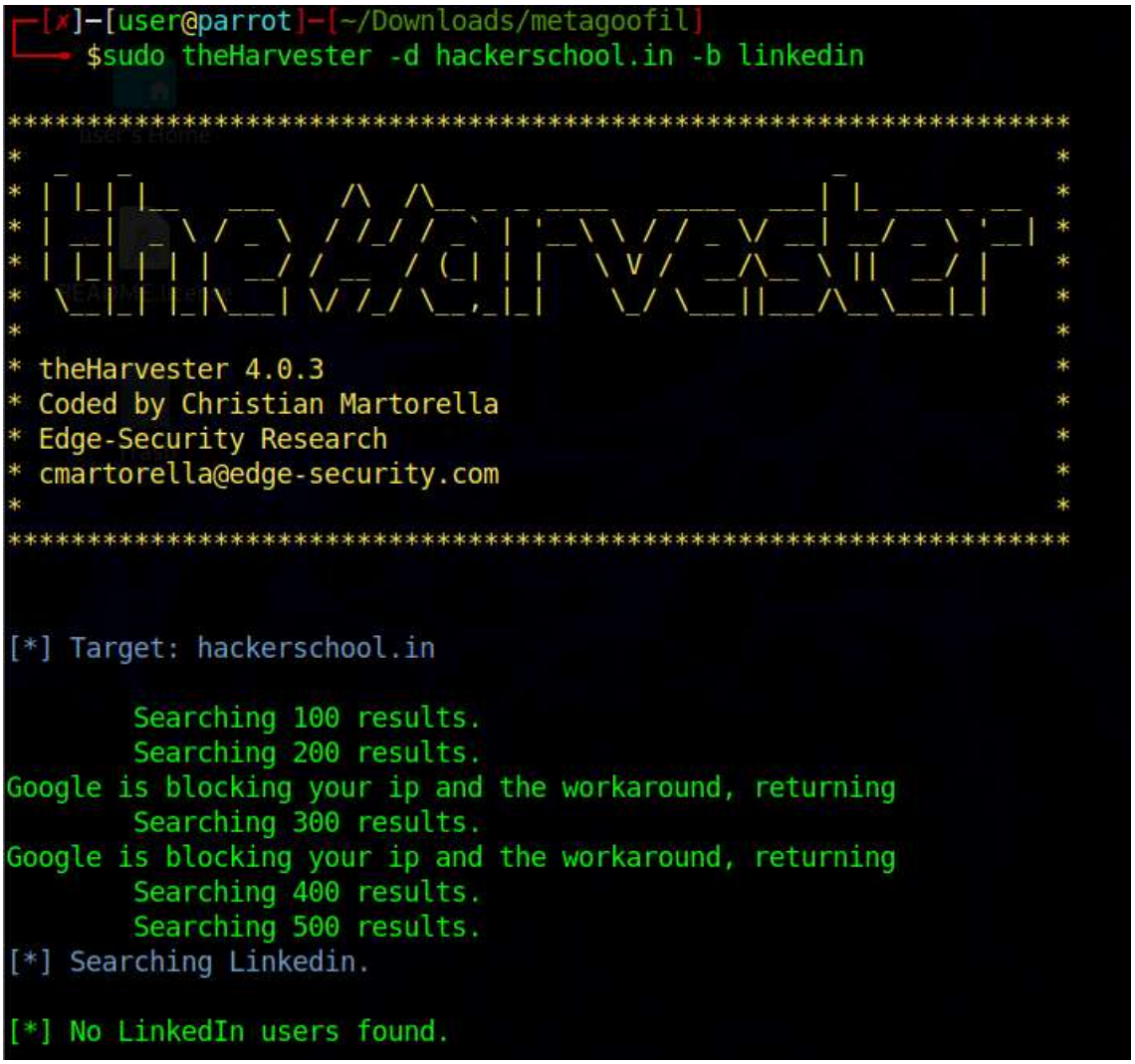
From an ethical hacking perspective, Insecam helps learners understand:

- 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.

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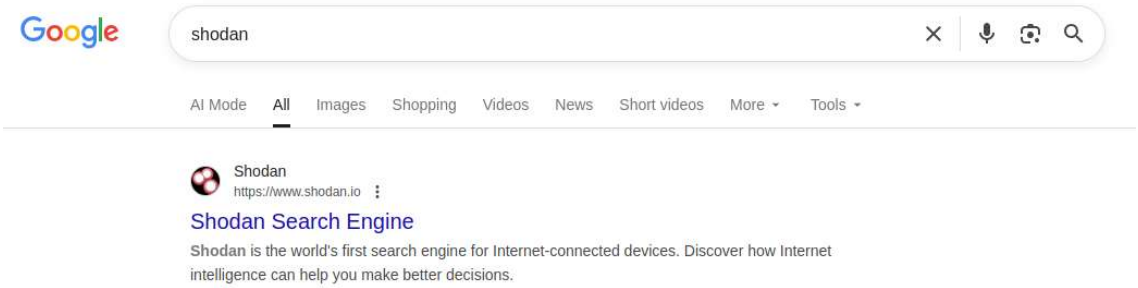
6. Shodan

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

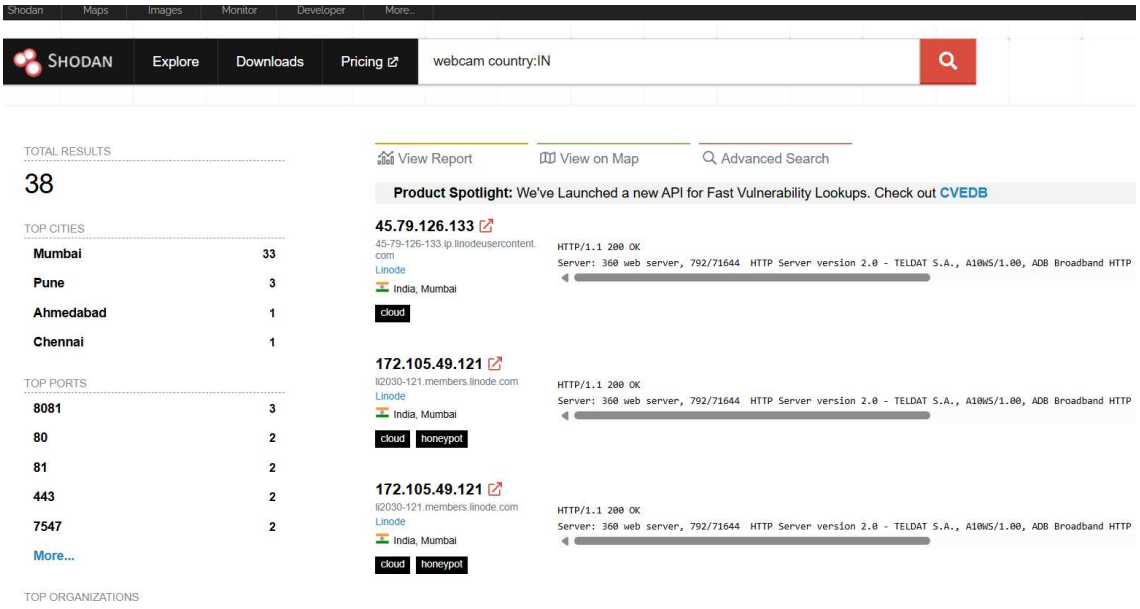


Login Process

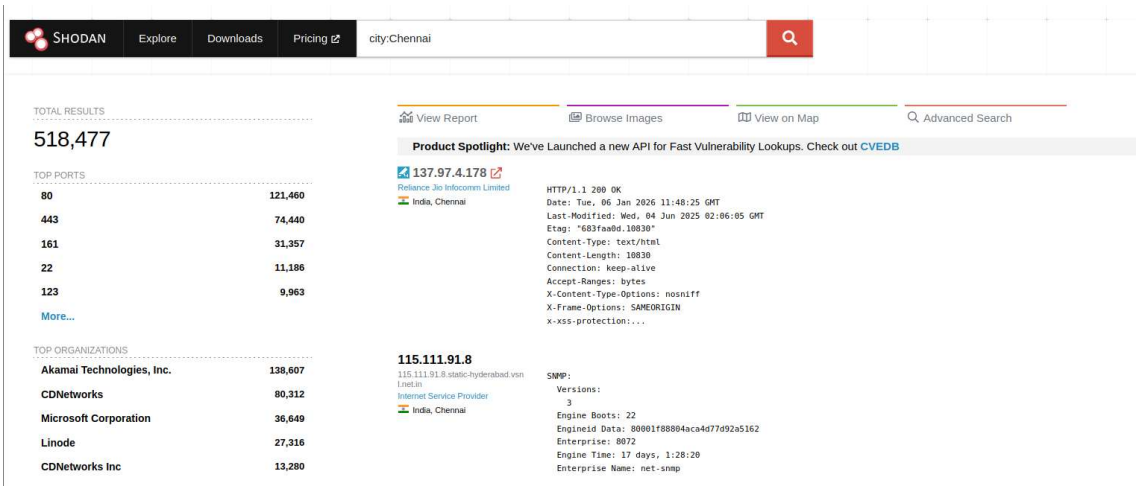
1. Visit **shodan.io**
2. Click **Sign Up / Login**
3. Register using an email address
4. Log in to access advanced search filters

Search Filters Used

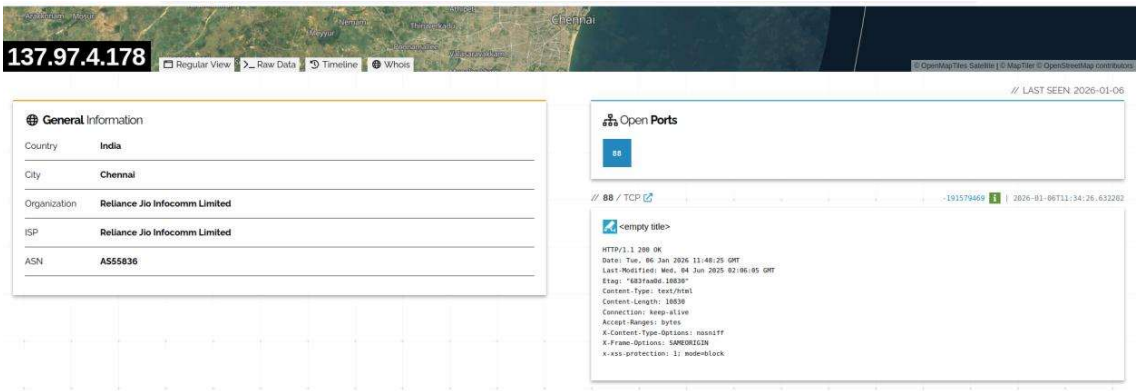
- port:20 → Identifies FTP services
- country:IN → Filters results from India



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



- camera → Internet-connected cameras

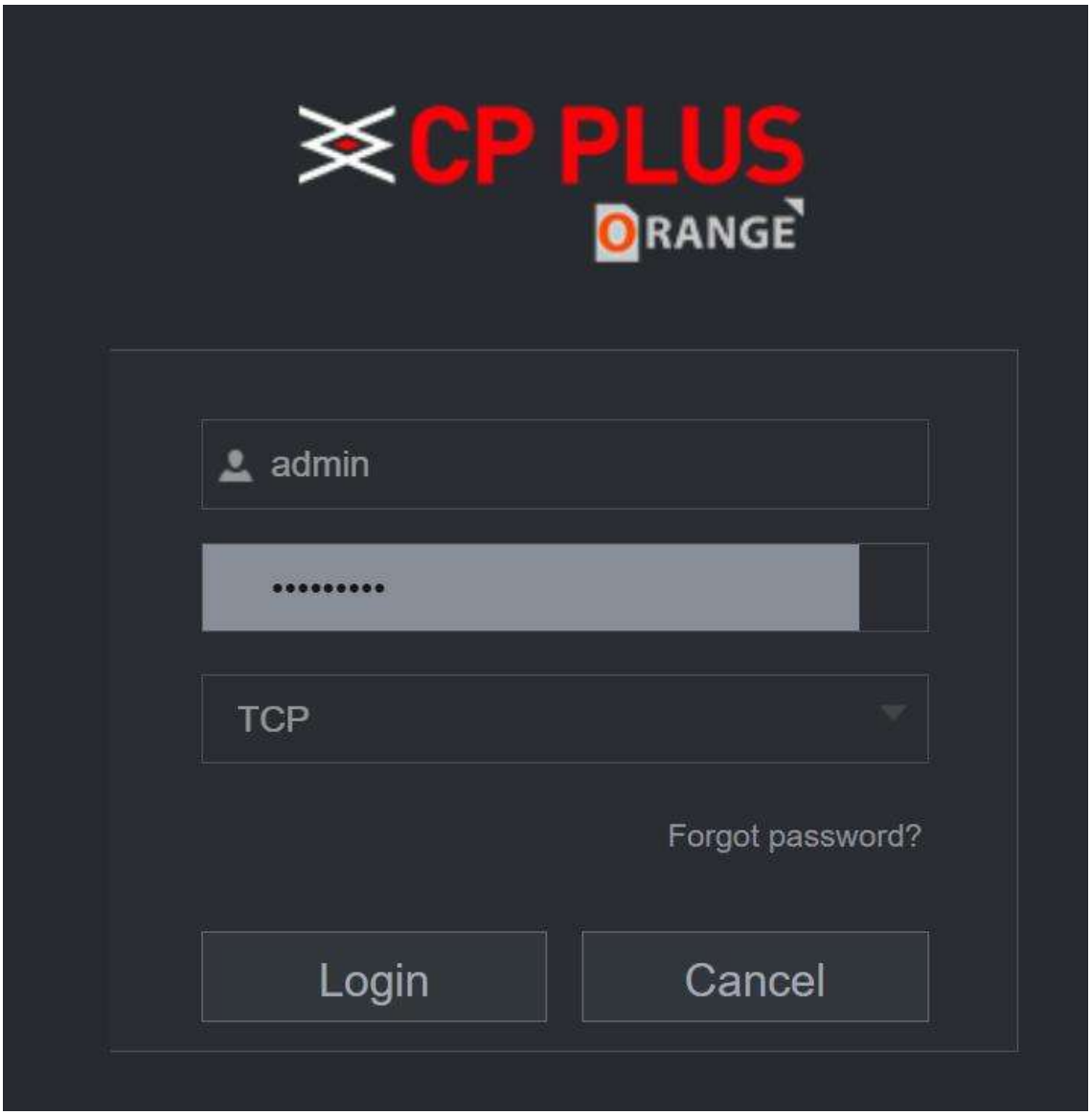


CP PLUS ORANGE – Camera Login Interface

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

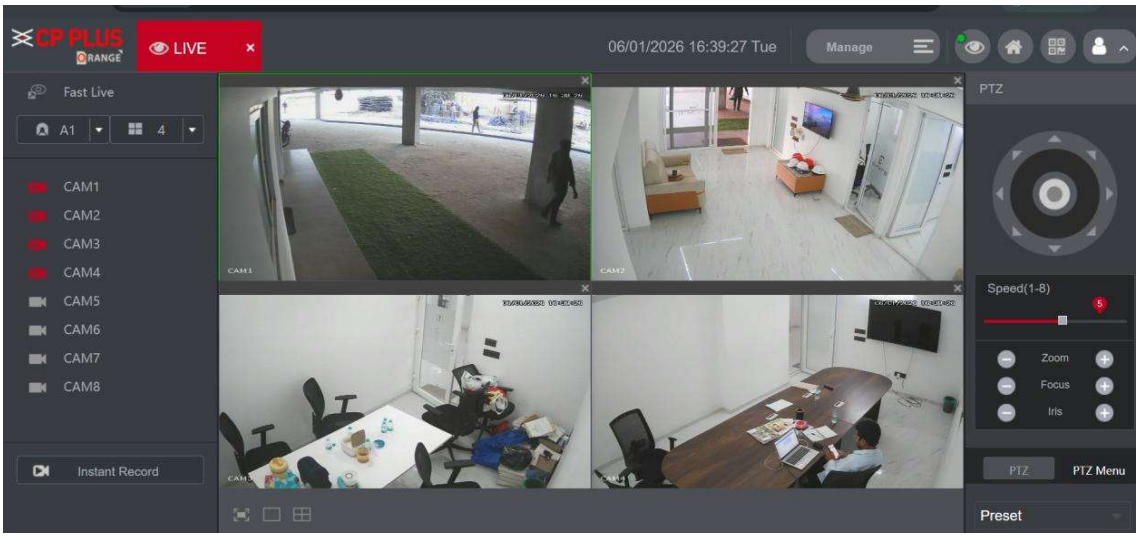
- The login screen requires a **username** and **password**
- Default user shown is **admin**
- Supports connection over **TCP protocol**
- Provides options such as **Login**, **Cancel**, and **Forgot password**
- Used for configuring and viewing surveillance cameras



Purpose

Shodan helps ethical hackers and security teams to:

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



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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