

Experiment 05

AIM:

Using OSINT tools to gather tactical information via WHOIS lookup, domain registration details, owner's contact information, registration and expiration dates, archived content, reverse image search, EXIF data, source code analysis, TLD checks, mentions of the target, RSS feeds, SSL certificate analysis, robots/sitemap inspection, port scans, and reverse IP lookups.

Theory

Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) is the process of collecting, analyzing, and utilizing publicly available information from online and offline open sources for investigative, security, and research purposes. In cybersecurity, OSINT enables the gathering of **tactical intelligence** about a target without breaching any legal boundaries.

One of the core tools in this process is **WHOIS lookup**, which reveals domain registration details such as:

- Registrar name
- Domain creation and expiry dates
- Name servers
- Owner's contact information (if not privacy-protected)

Another key resource is the **Wayback Machine**, which stores archived snapshots of websites, allowing investigators to observe historical changes, recover deleted content, or track ownership patterns.

Reverse image search (Google Images, TinEye) helps identify the origin, authenticity, and online presence of images from the target's website, while **EXIF metadata analysis** reveals hidden technical details embedded within images—such as GPS coordinates, camera details, and timestamps—if available.

Examining the **source code** of a website can reveal comments, email addresses, analytics codes, or even indicators of technologies and vulnerabilities in use. Similarly, **robots.txt** and **sitemap.xml** files may disclose hidden URLs, restricted sections, and update timelines.

SSL certificate inspection provides insight into encryption protocols, certificate issuers, and validity periods, which reflect the website's security posture. More advanced techniques such as **port scanning** and **reverse IP lookup** reveal active services and other domains hosted on the same server.

By combining these tools and methods, investigators can collect actionable, non-intrusive intelligence useful for **digital forensics, ethical hacking, and threat analysis**.

Procedure

Step 1: Select a Target Website

- Example: openai.com (You may choose any domain for analysis).
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Step 2: Perform WHOIS Lookup

Tools:

- [DomainTools WHOIS](#)
- [Who.is](#)

Steps:

1. Enter the target domain in the tool.
2. Record:
 - Registrar name
 - Registration & expiry dates
 - Registrant contact (if visible)
 - Name servers

devhumayun.me

WHOIS Information

IP Address: [216.198.79.65](#)

Whois

RDAP

DNS Records

Uptime

Diagnostics

Hide Data

Refresh Data

Registrar Information

Registrar
NameCheap, Inc.

WHOIS Server
whois.namecheap.com

Referral URL
<https://www.namecheap.com/>

Important Dates

Created
7/7/2025

Updated
7/12/2025

Expires
7/7/2026

Nameservers

Hostname	IP Address
ns1.vercel-dns.com	198.51.44.13
ns2.vercel-dns.com	198.51.45.13

Domain Status

ok <https://icann.org/epp#ok>

Similar Domains

[dev.hu](#)
[devhu3.weebly.com](#)
[devhua.com](#)
[devhuar.com](#)
[devhub12r.site](#)
[dev-hub-1.online](#)
[dev-hub-1.ru](#)
[devhub84.ru](#)
[devhub-a.com](#)
[devhub-africa.com](#)

Contact Information

Registrant Contact

Name

REDACTED

Organization

Privacy service provided by Withheld for Privacy ehf

Address

REDACTED, Capital Region IS

Phone

REDACTED

Fax

REDACTED

Email

REDACTED

Admin Contact

Name

REDACTED

Organization

REDACTED

Address

REDACTED, REDACTED REDACTED

Phone

REDACTED

Fax

REDACTED

Email

REDACTED

Tech Contact

Name

REDACTED

Organization

REDACTED

Address

REDACTED, REDACTED REDACTED

Phone

REDACTED

Fax

REDACTED

Email

REDACTED

Step 3: Explore Archived Versions with Wayback Machine

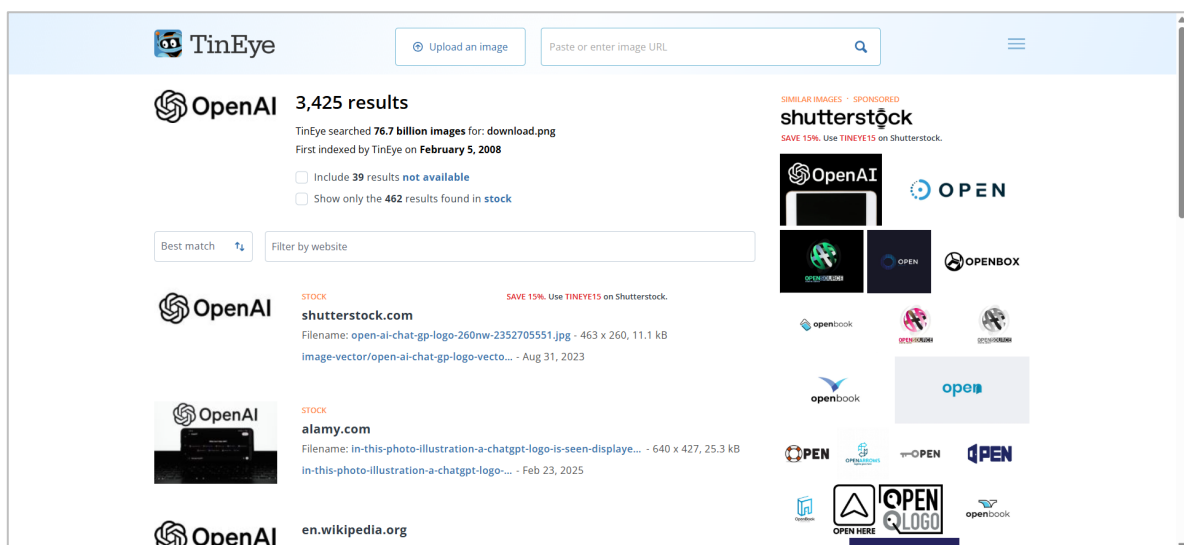
Tool: web.archive.org

Steps:

- 1. Enter the domain name.
- 2. Browse archived snapshots over time.

[illegible]

1. Download an image from the target site (e.g., logo).
2. Upload to the search tool.
3. Identify duplicates, source origins, or unauthorized use.



Step 5: Extract EXIF Metadata

Tools:

- [Metadata2Go](#)

Steps:

1. Download an image from the site.
2. Upload it to the EXIF tool.
3. Check for GPS location, device details, and timestamps.

Checksum	7952023f0c9706ed74c5fdceca47829a
Filename	download.png
Filesize	14 kB
Filetype	PNG
Filetypeextension	png
Mimetype	image/png
Imagewidth	432
Imageheight	117
Bitdepth	8
Colortype	RGB with Alpha
Compression	Deflate/Inflate
Filter	Adaptive
Interlace	Noninterlaced
Imagesize	432x117
Megapixels	0.051
Category	image

Raw Header	89 50 4E 47 0D 0A 1A 0A 00 00 00 0D 49 48 44 52 00 00 01 B0 00 00 00 75 08 06 00 00 00 2F 1C B4 99 00 00 10 00 49 44 41 54 78 01 EC 9D 0B B4 17 45 19 C0 E7 CF E9 41 91 1D AC A3 07 B5 D2 8C B0 D4 44 81 8A CC 4E 17 48 0E A2 25 82 4F 4E C7 AE 99 8A 22 47 A2 12 CA 0C A9 8E 61 2F 2D A4 83 45 16 59 64 6A 80 59 90 15 3E 0E 46 59 90 11 66 29 A5 DD 2C B3 87 D1 CB E3 F3 9C 1B BF 95 BD CE DD
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Step 6: Analyze Website Source Code

Steps:

1. Right-click on the webpage → “View Page Source.”
 2. Look for:
 - HTML comments
 - Embedded scripts and analytics
 - Email addresses
 - Hidden form fields
-

Step 7: Review Robots.txt & Sitemap.xml

Steps:

1. Open devhumayun.me/robots.txt to find restricted areas.

```
User-agent: OAI-SearchBot  
Allow: /
```

```
User-agent: *  
Allow: /
```

2. Open [devhumayun.me /sitemap.xml](https://devhumayun.me/sitemap.xml) to view page URLs and last updated dates.

```
▼<sitemapindex xmlns="http://www.sitemaps.org/schemas/sitemap/0.9">  
  ▼<sitemap>  
    <loc>https://openai.com/sitemap.xml/page/</loc>  
  </sitemap>  
  ▼<sitemap>  
    <loc>https://openai.com/sitemap.xml/api/</loc>  
  </sitemap>  
  ▼<sitemap>  
    <loc>https://openai.com/sitemap.xml/company/</loc>  
  </sitemap>  
  ▼<sitemap>  
    <loc>https://openai.com/sitemap.xml/global-affairs/</loc>  
  </sitemap>  
  ▼<sitemap>  
    <loc>https://openai.com/sitemap.xml/product/</loc>  
  </sitemap>  
  ▼<sitemap>  
    <loc>https://openai.com/sitemap.xml/research/</loc>  
  </sitemap>  
  ▼<sitemap>
```

Step 8: Inspect SSL Certificate

Steps:

1. Click the padlock icon in the browser.
2. Check:
 - Certificate issuer
 - Validity dates
 - Encryption details

Certificate Viewer: *.devhumayun.me ×

General Details

Issued To

Common Name (CN)	*.devhumayun.me
Organization (O)	<Not Part Of Certificate>
Organizational Unit (OU)	<Not Part Of Certificate>

Issued By

Common Name (CN)	R10
Organization (O)	Let's Encrypt
Organizational Unit (OU)	<Not Part Of Certificate>

Validity Period

Issued On	Monday, July 7, 2025 at 11:20:32 AM
Expires On	Sunday, October 5, 2025 at 11:20:31 AM

SHA-256 Fingerprints

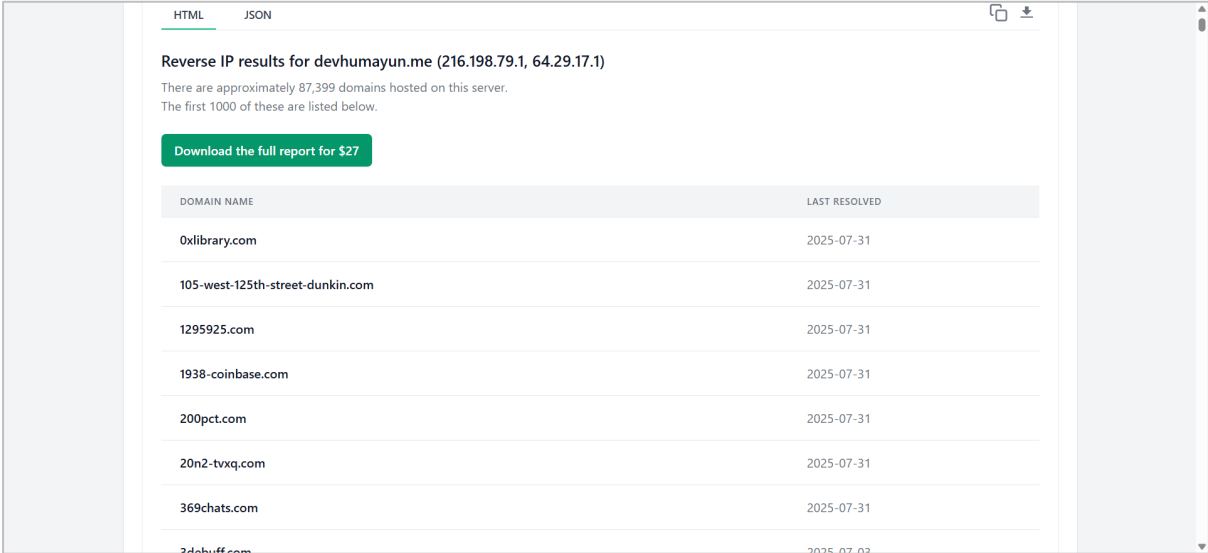
Certificate	fa17210450f73d9c3cebd623fd7b8377ab51ac2f594e29fddafc589c2c5643ee
Public Key	17cccf9ebc99863c4aaa8849434a280ee6bea3d5590b437a54788c329abe4fbb

Step 9: Perform Reverse IP Lookup

Tool: viewdns.info/reverseip

Steps:

- 1. Enter the domain or IP.
- 2. Identify other domains hosted on the same server.



Conclusion

In this experiment, we gathered tactical intelligence on a target using a range of OSINT tools and techniques, including WHOIS lookups, archive analysis, image tracing, metadata extraction, source code inspection, SSL analysis, and reverse IP lookups. This exercise demonstrated how open-source data can be leveraged for **cybersecurity assessments, threat detection, and forensic investigations** while remaining completely within legal boundaries.