

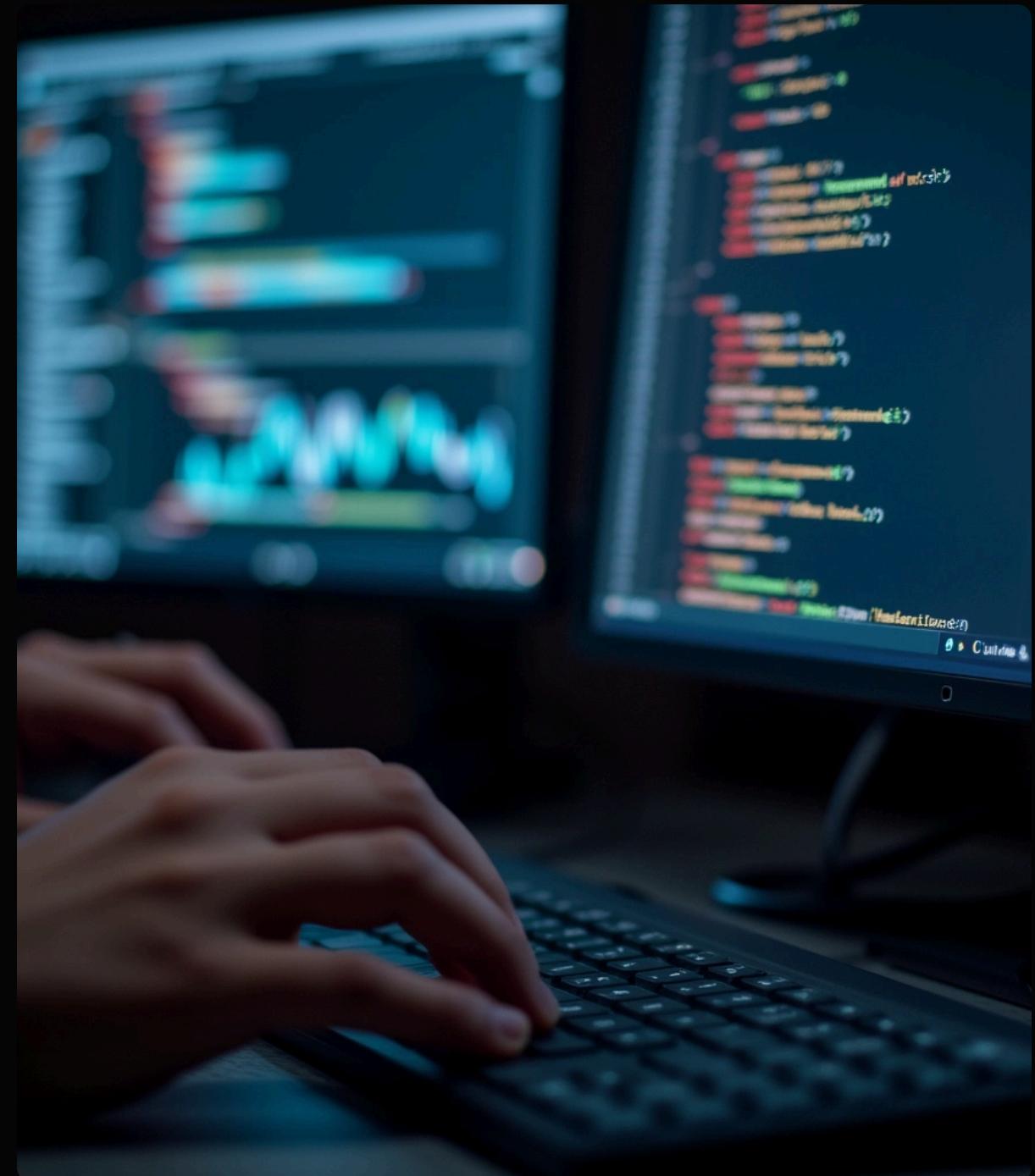
Information Gathering Using Python

Ethical network reconnaissance and IP information collection

- Jash Vaidya

Information gathering using python techniques - Metbrains_P1

Insights into python-based information gathering techniques that can be implemented for various applications including web scraping, API integration, and data mining.



Warning

Ethical usage warning for security tools

This tool is provided for legitimate security assessment only



Professional responsibility

Security professionals must conduct assessments ethically and within defined project boundaries.



Law violations

Misuse of this tool may violate computer fraud and network access laws in your region.



Legal implications

Unauthorized scanning of systems is illegal in many jurisdictions and may result in prosecution.



Authorization required

Always obtain proper authorization before performing any network reconnaissance activities.

System requirements and setup

Python 3.x required with standard library dependencies, works across operating systems.

Dependencies

Uses only Python standard libraries for functionality.

Compatibility

Works on Windows, Linux, and macOS systems.

Execution

Command line interface requiring target IP argument.

Output

Results displayed in console and saved to file.



Network reconnaissance for cybersecurity assessment

- Network reconnaissance is a critical first step in cybersecurity assessment
- This presentation covers a Python tool for gathering basic network information
- The tool performs ping checks, DNS lookups, port scanning, and organization data collection

Algorithm and operational workflow

Validate command-line input, perform connectivity checks, and gather target information.

 Network

 Location

 Initial



Script explanation and results

C:\Users\jashv\Downloads\Metbrians_P1.py - Notepad++

```

1 import sys
2 import socket
3 import subprocess
4 import platform
5 import json
6 import urllib.request
7
8 def run_investigation():
9     # We check if you actually typed an IP after the script name
10    if len(sys.argv) < 2:
11        print("You forgot to give me an IP address")
12        print("Try something like python Metbrians_P1.py 8.8.8.8")
13        return
14
15 target = sys.argv[1]
16 results = []
17 results.append(f"Report for {target}")
18
19 # 1. The Connectivity Check
20 system_type = platform.system().lower()
21 flag = "n" if system_type == "windows" else "c"
22 try:
23     subprocess.check_output(["ping", f"-{flag}", "1", target], stderr=subprocess.STDOUT)
24     status = "The target is online"
25 except Exception:
26     status = "The target did not respond to ping"
27 results.append(status)
28
29 # 2. Reverse DNS Search
30 try:
31     name_info = socket.gethostbyaddr(target)
32     hostname = f"Hostname found. {name_info[0]}"
33 except Exception:
34     hostname = "No hostname could be found"
35 results.append(hostname)
36
37 # 3. Port Discovery
38 found_ports = []
39 # Checking common ones like SSH and Web
40 for port in [22, 80, 443]:
41     test_sock = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_STREAM)
42     test_sock.settimeout(0.5)
43     if test_sock.connect_ex((target, port)) == 0:
44         found_ports.append(str(port))
45     test_sock.close()
46

```

Python file

length: 2,473 lines: 76 Ln: 12 Col: 67 Pos: 341

C:\Users\jashv\Downloads\Metbrians_P1.py - Notepad++

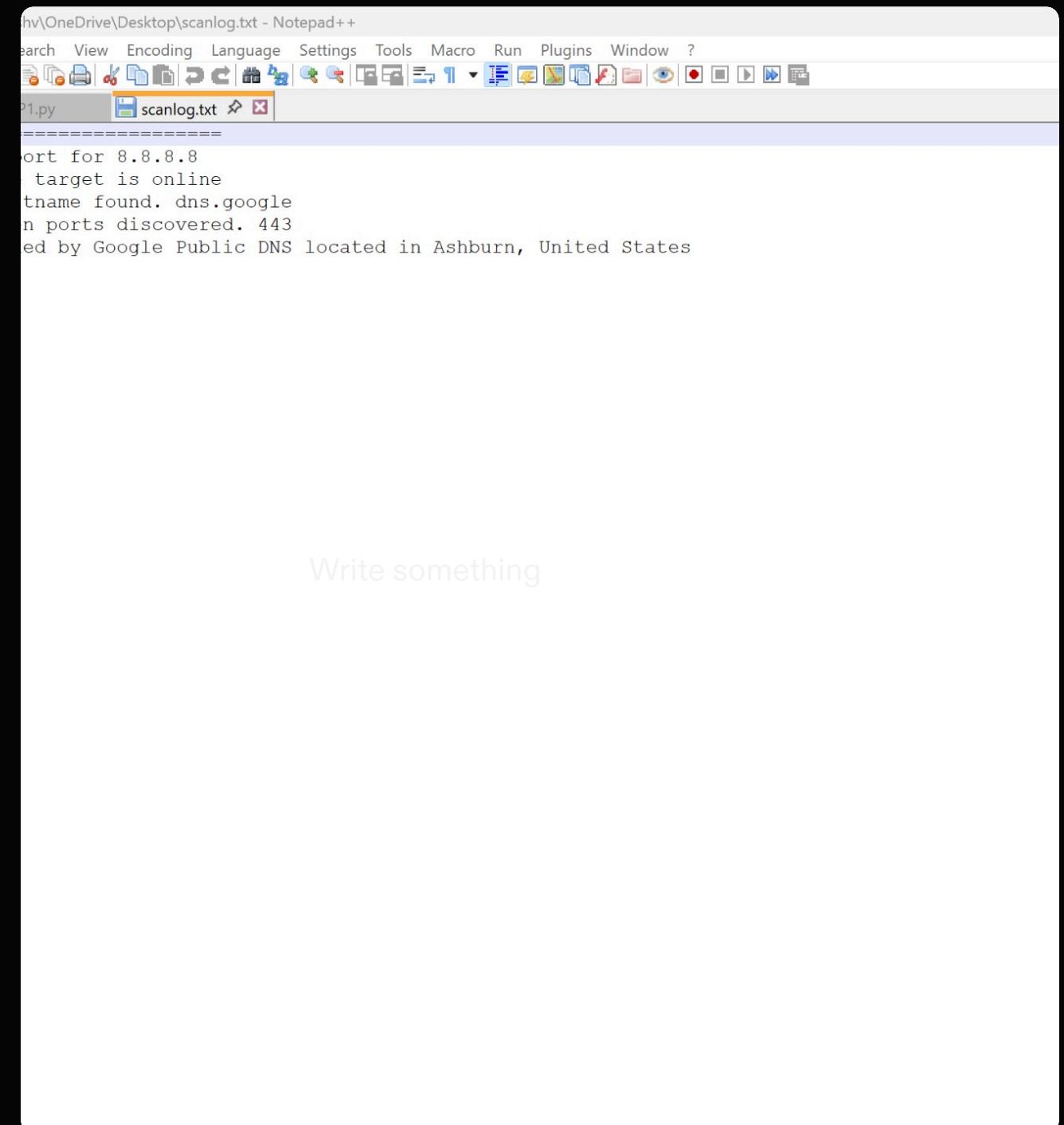
```

34 hostname = "No hostname could be found"
35 results.append(hostname)
36
37 # 3. Port Discovery
38 found_ports = []
39 # Checking common ones like SSH and Web
40 for port in [22, 80, 443]:
41     test_sock = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_STREAM)
42     test_sock.settimeout(0.5)
43     if test_sock.connect_ex((target, port)) == 0:
44         found_ports.append(str(port))
45     test_sock.close()
46
47 if found_ports:
48     port_msg = f"Open ports discovered. ({', '.join(found_ports)})"
49 else:
50     port_msg = "No common ports are open"
51 results.append(port_msg)
52
53 # 4. Organization Lookup
54 try:
55     api_url = f"http://ip-api.com/json/{target}"
56     with urllib.request.urlopen(api_url) as response:
57         data = json.loads(response.read().decode())
58         org = data.get("org", "Unknown Owner")
59         location = f"{data.get('city')}, {data.get('country')}"
60         whois = f"Owned by {org} located in {location}"
61     except Exception:
62         whois = "Could not find organization data"
63     results.append(whois)
64
65 # Output to terminal
66 print("\n".join(results) + "\n")
67
68 # Saving to the text file automatically
69 with open("scanlog.txt", "a") as f:
70     f.write("=" * 20 + "\n")
71     f.write("\n".join(results) + "\n")
72
73 print("Results have been saved to scanlog.txt")
74
75 if __name__ == "__main__":
76     run_investigation()

```

Python file

length: 2,473 lines: 76 Ln: 66 Col: 44 Pos: 2,194



A screenshot of the Notepad++ application window. The title bar reads "D:\OneDrive\Desktop\scanlog.txt - Notepad++". The menu bar includes Search, View, Encoding, Language, Settings, Tools, Macro, Run, Plugins, Window, and Help. The toolbar contains various icons for file operations like Open, Save, Print, and Find. The status bar shows "D:\OneDrive\Desktop\scanlog.txt" and "Line: 1 Col: 1". The main text area displays the following log output:

```
port for 8.8.8.8
target is online
tname found. dns.google
n ports discovered. 443
ed by Google Public DNS located in Ashburn, United States
```

Output

- Scanlog.txt

The script provides rapid basic intelligence on network targets. It serves as a useful tool for preliminary security assessments and network mapping.

This Python-based utility can be extended with additional checks and more comprehensive scanning capabilities to enhance its functionality. The versatile nature of the script allows for customization based on specific security requirements. It demonstrates practical Python application for cybersecurity tasks.

References and resources

Essential documentation and tools for Python security automation and responsible practices.



IP geolocation

IP-API.com provides detailed geolocation and organization data for network analysis.



Scanning methodologies

Best practices for network scanning to ensure efficient and thorough security assessments.



Python documentation

Comprehensive guides for socket, subprocess, and urllib modules to implement network functionality.



Security automation

Python resources for building automated security tools and streamlining repetitive tasks.



Ethical practice

Resources for responsible disclosure protocols when vulnerabilities are discovered.



Legal frameworks

Cybersecurity legal guidelines for ethical hacking and proper disclosure procedures.

Thank you

- Presentation created for internship demonstration - Script available for educational review