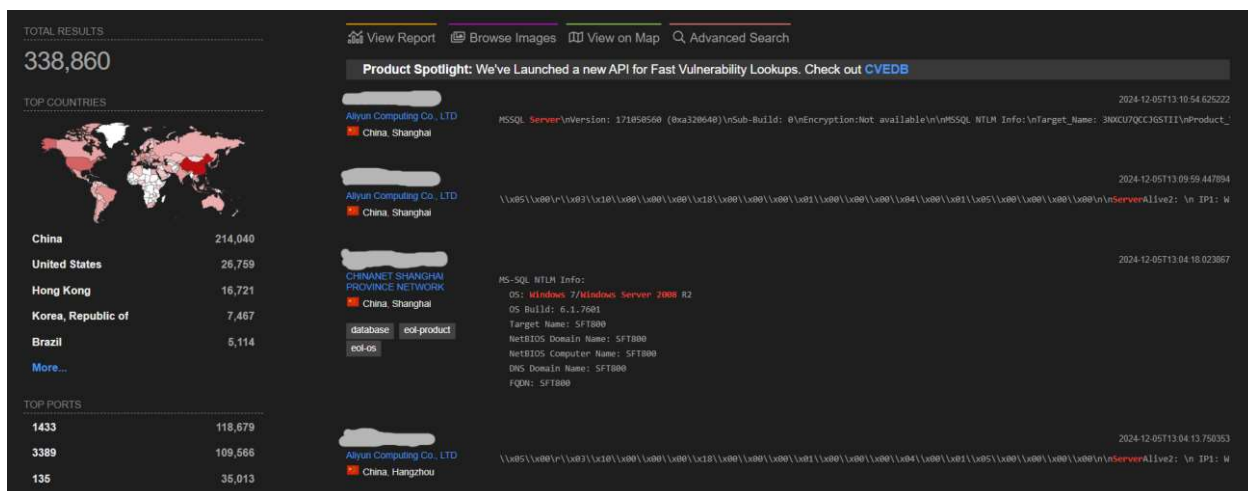


This project focuses on the importance of reconnaissance in ethical hacking and penetration testing. It covers passive information gathering techniques and tools used in the initial stages of the Cyber Kill Chain.

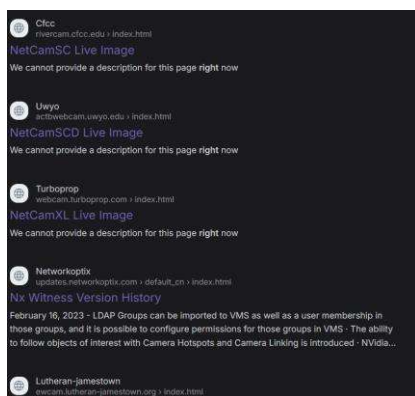
Using search engines for reconnaissance and footprinting

Shodan is a search engine for Internet-connected devices. This activity demonstrates how to use Shodan to find potentially vulnerable systems.



Here is a screenshot of results for “windows server 2008.” IP addresses have been masked for security reasons. This shows that there are over 300,000 running Windows Server 2008 that have been discovered by Shodan.

Another way to use browsers for reconnaissance and footprinting is called Google Dorking. Google Dorking involves using advanced search operators to find sensitive information that may be inadvertently exposed on the internet.



Here are the results for entering “Pop-up” + “Live Image” inurl:index.html.’ It shows unsecured cameras and shows their live feed. This shows how powerful search engines

can be used to find potentially sensitive information. It highlights the importance of proper access controls and careful consideration of what information is made public.

There are some command line commands that are helpful for reconnaissance and footprinting. The WHOIS command is a utility used to retrieve information about a domain name or an IP address. It queries the WHOIS database to provide details such as the registrant's contact information, registration date, and expiration date.

For example, if I wanted to do reconnaissance on the domain “republicofkoffee.com,” you would get something like this:

```
(kali@kali)~$ whois republicofkoffee.com
Domain Name: REPUBLICOFKOFFEE.COM
Registry Domain ID: 2582024072_DOMAIN_COM-VRSN
Registrar WHOIS Server: whois.namecheap.com
Registrar URL: http://www.namecheap.com
Updated Date: 2024-01-11T02:08:15Z
Creation Date: 2021-01-01T17:33:07Z
Registry Expiry Date: 2025-01-01T17:33:07Z
Registrar: NameCheap, Inc.
Registrar IANA ID: 1068
Registrar Abuse Contact Email: abuse@namecheap.com
Registrar Abuse Contact Phone: +1.6613102107
Domain Status: clientTransferProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientTransferProhibited
Name Server: NS1.BRAINYDNS.COM
Name Server: NS2.BRAINYDNS.COM
DNSSEC: unsigned
URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form: https://www.icann.org/wicf/
```

It includes a lot more information than just this. This is just a taste of it. It should be noted that the same information can be found at the whois website: <https://www.whois.com/whois/republicofkoffee.com>.

You can use the Internet Archive Wayback machine to see previous versions of this website.



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417 URLs have been captured for this URL prefix.

This project showcased systematic OSINT techniques for extracting domain intelligence, emphasizing the critical role of ethical, methodical information gathering in cybersecurity reconnaissance.