

# Eric Mwenda Attacking Web Applications with Ffuf

https://academy.hackthebox.com/achievement/596337/54



Tools such as ffuf provide us with a handy automated way to fuzz the web application's individual components or a web page. This means, for example, that we use a list that is used to send requests to the webserver if the page with the name from our list exists on the webserver. If we get a response code 200, then we know that this page exists on the webserver, and we can look at it manually.

# **Web Fuzzing**

The term fuzzing refers to a testing technique that sends various types of user input to a certain interface to study how it would react. If we were fuzzing for SQL injection vulnerabilities, we would be sending random special characters and seeing how the server would react. If we were fuzzing for a buffer overflow, we would be sending long strings and incrementing their length to see if and when the binary would break.

### Wordlists

Wordlist contains a combination of 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.

# **Directory Fuzzing**

Ffuf is mostly pre-installed on kali linux machines. If you want to use it on your own machine, you can either use "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:

There are main two options are -w for wordlists and -u for the URL. We can assign a wordlist to a keyword to refer to it where we want to fuzz. For example, we can pick our wordlist and assign the keyword FUZZ to it by adding: FUZZ after it:

# **Questions**

Answer the question(s) below to complete this Section and earn cubes!

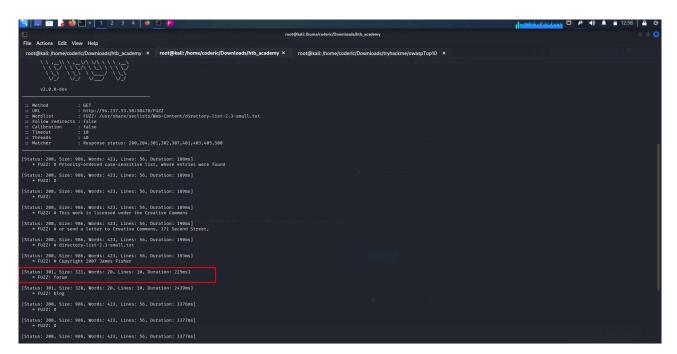
# Target: 94.237.53.58:50478

In addition to the directory we found above, there is another directory that can be found. What is it? **Ans: forum** 

First is to start a ffuf scanning

```
| MacContent | 1.08
| MacC
```

I had a few results such as blog and forum, I tried answer blog it was not the one but forum was tha answer.



# **Extension Fuzzing**

In the previous section, we found that we had access to /blog, but the directory returned an empty page, and we cannot manually locate any links or pages. So, we will once again utilize web fuzzing to see if the directory contains any hidden pages. However, before we start, we must find out what types of pages the website uses, like .html, .aspx, .php, or something else.

One common way to identify that is by finding the server type through the HTTP response headers and guessing the extension. For example, if the server is apache, then it may be .php, or if it was IIS, then it could be .asp or .aspx, and so on. This method is not very practical, though. So, we will again utilize ffuf to fuzz the extension, similar to how we fuzzed for directories. Instead of placing the FUZZ keyword where the directory name would be, we would place it where the extension would be .FUZZ, and use a wordlist for common extensions. We can utilize the following wordlist in SecLists for extensions:

# **Questions**

Try to use what you learned in this section to fuzz the '/blog' directory and find all pages. One of them should contain a flag. What is the flag?

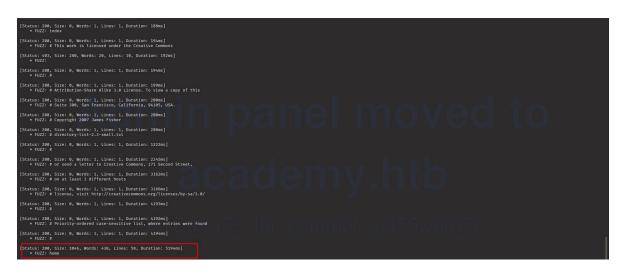


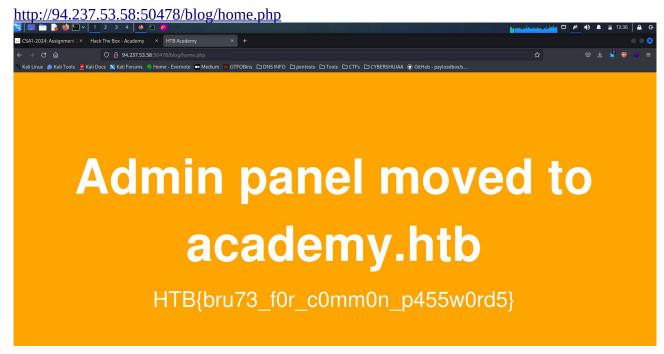
We need to find all pages.



Command used:- ffuf -w /usr/share/seclists/Web-Content/directory-list-2.3-small.txt -u http://94.237.53.58:50478/blog/FUZZ.php

We have a php file called home, all I needed to do was to add this directory in the IP address on my browser to get a flag.





# **Recursive Fuzzing**

# **Recursive Flags**

When we scan recursively, 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.

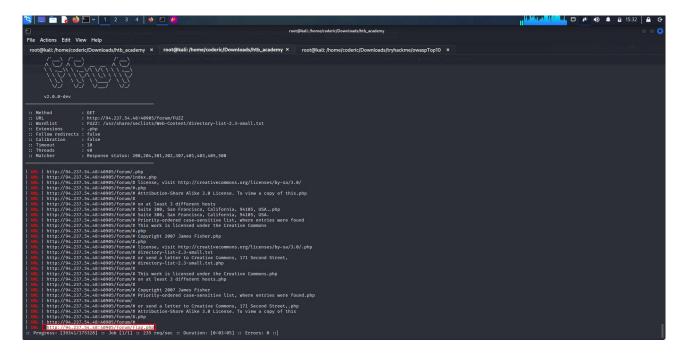
In ffuf, we can enable recursive scanning with the **-recursion flag**, and we can specify the depth with the **-recursion**-depth flag. If we specify **-recursion-depth 1**, it will only fuzz the main directories and their direct sub-directories. If any sub-sub-directories are identified (like /login/user, it will not fuzz them for pages). When using recursion in ffuf, we can specify our extension with **-** e .php

the **flag -v** to output the full URLs. Otherwise, it may be difficult to tell which .php file lies under which directory.

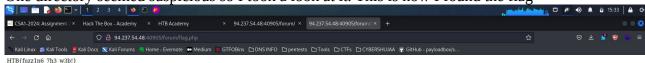
# Questions

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? **Ans:** HTB{fuzz1n6\_7h3\_w3b!} From the previous scan, we were able to see another hidden directory called forum. This time I decided to take a look at it using ffuf.

Command used:- ffuf -w /usr/share/seclists/Web-Content/directory-list-2.3-small.txt:FUZZ -u http://94.237.54.48:40905/forum/FUZZ -recursion -recursion-depth 1 -e .php -v | grep URL



One directory seemed suspicious so I took a look at it. This is how I found the flag



#### **DNS Records**

In this section it is explained in the case we visit the IP directly, the browser goes to that IP directly and knows how to connect to it. But in this case, we tell it to go to academy.htb, so it looks into the local /etc/hosts file and doesn't find any mention of it. It asks the public DNS about it (such as Google's DNS 8.8.8.8) and does not find any mention of it, since it is not a public website, and eventually fails to connect. So, to connect to academy.htb, we would have to add it to our /etc/hosts file.

Command used to add a DNS to the /ect/hosts file is:sudo sh -c 'echo "SERVER\_IP academy.htb" >> /etc/hosts'

# **Sub-domains Fuzzing**

A sub-domain is any website underlying another domain. For example, <a href="https://photos.google.com">https://photos.google.com</a> photos is the sub-domain of google.com.

# Questions

Answer the question(s) below to complete this Section and earn cubes! Try running a sub-domain fuzzing test on 'inlanefreight.com' to find a customer sub-domain portal. What is the full domain of it?

Ans: customer.inlanefreight.com

From my results I have a hint **customer** and since it is a sub-domain the answer has to include the domain **'inlanefreight.com** to make **customer.inlanefreight.com** 

# **Vhost Fuzzing**

# **Vhosts vs. Sub-domains**

The key difference between VHosts and sub-domains is that a VHost is basically a 'sub-domain' served on the same server and has the same IP, such that a single IP could be serving two or more different websites.

It is possible when we use the sub-domain fuzzing, we would only be able to identify public sub-domains but will not identify any sub-domains that are not public.

To scan for VHosts, without manually adding the entire wordlist to our /etc/hosts, we will be fuzzing HTTP headers, specifically the Host: header. To do that, we can use the -H flag to specify a header.

FUZZ keyword : ffuf -w /opt/useful/SecLists/Discovery/DNS/subdomains-top1million-5000.txt:FUZZ -u http://academy.htb:PORT/ -H 'Host: FUZZ.academy.htb'

#### **Results:**

```
mail2 [Status: 200, Size: 900, Words: 423, Lines: 56]
dns2 [Status: 200, Size: 900, Words: 423, Lines: 56]
ns3 [Status: 200, Size: 900, Words: 423, Lines: 56]
dns1 [Status: 200, Size: 900, Words: 423, Lines: 56]
lists [Status: 200, Size: 900, Words: 423, Lines: 56]
webmail [Status: 200, Size: 900, Words: 423, Lines: 56]
static [Status: 200, Size: 900, Words: 423, Lines: 56]
web [Status: 200, Size: 900, Words: 423, Lines: 56]
www1 [Status: 200, Size: 900, Words: 423, Lines: 56]
<...SNIP...>
```

Most response is 200 Ok!, this is expected when a vhost is present. we are simply changing the header while visiting http://academy.htb:PORT/. So, we know that we will always get 200 OK.

If the VHost does exist and we send a correct one in the header, we should get a different response size, as in that case, we would be getting the page from that VHosts, which is likely to show a different page.

# **Filtering Results**

This helps us minimize the number of results gotten from a search or focus the scan on the desired area.

Ffuf provides the option to match or filter out a specific HTTP code, response size, or amount of words.

For example, we know the response size of incorrect results as 900, we use **-fs 900** to filter out this size response.

# **Questions**

#### Target: 94.237.54.75:51110

Try running a VHost fuzzing scan on 'academy.htb', and see what other VHosts you get. What other VHosts did you get?

Ans: test.academy.htb

Command used:- ffuf -w /usr/share/seclists/Discovery/DNS/subdomains-top1million-5000.txt:FUZZ -u http://94.237.54.75:51110/ -H 'Host: FUZZ.academy.htb' -fs 900

```
### Comparison of the Comparis
```

#### **Results:**

```
[Status: 200, Size: 986, Words: 423, Lines: 56, Duration: 474ms]
    * FUZZ: max.blog
[Status: 200, Size: 986, Words: 423, Lines: 56, Duration: 476ms]
    * FUZZ: max.blog
[Status: 200, Size: 986, Words: 423, Lines: 56, Duration: 475ms]
    * FUZZ: max.forum
[Status: 200, Size: 986, Words: 423, Lines: 56, Duration: 476ms]
    * FUZZ: max.forum
[Status: 200, Size: 986, Words: 423, Lines: 56, Duration: 474ms]
    * FUZZ: dns
[Status: 200, Size: 986, Words: 423, Lines: 56, Duration: 472ms]
    * FUZZ: intranet

Status: 200, Size: 986, Words: 423, Lines: 56, Duration: 473ms]
    * FUZZ: max.fest

[Status: 200, Size: 986, Words: 423, Lines: 56, Duration: 473ms]
    * FUZZ: max.fest

[Status: 200, Size: 986, Words: 423, Lines: 56, Duration: 397ms]
    * FUZZ: sip
```

# **Parameter Fuzzing - GET**

If we run a recursive ffuf scan on admin.academy.htb, we should find http://admin.academy.htb:PORT/admin/admin.php. If we try accessing this page, we see the following:



That indicates that there must be something that identifies users to verify whether they have access to read the flag. We did not login, nor do we have any cookie that can be verified at the backend. So, perhaps there is a key that we can pass to the page to read the flag. Such keys would usually be passed as a parameter, using either a GET or a POST HTTP request. This section will discuss how to fuzz for such parameters until we identify a parameter that can be accepted by the page.

# **GET Request Fuzzing**

GET requests, which are usually passed right after the URL, with a ? symbol, like: http://admin.academy.htb:PORT/admin/admin.php?param1=key.

What we have to do is replace param1 with FUZZ and rerun our scan Example command used:

ffuf -w /opt/useful/SecLists/Discovery/Web-Content/burp-parameter-names.txt:FUZZ -u http://admin.academy.htb:PORT/admin/admin.php?FUZZ=key -fs xxx

# Questions

Target: 94.237.54.75:51110

Using what you learned in this section, run a parameter fuzzing scan on this page. what is the parameter accepted by this webpage?

Ans: user

Command used:- ffuf -w /usr/share/seclists/Web-Content/burp-parameter-names.txt:FUZZ -u http://admin.academy.htb:31885/admin/admin.php?FUZZ=key -fw 227

-fw is a word filter.

# **Parameter Fuzzing - POST**

The main difference between POST requests and GET requests is that POST requests are not passed with the URL and cannot simply be appended after a ? symbol. POST requests are passed in the data field within the HTTP request.

To fuzz the data field with ffuf, we can use the -d flag, as we saw previously in the output of ffuf -h. We also have to add -X POST to send POST requests.

Syntax Command:-

 $ffuf - w / opt/useful/SecLists/Discovery/Web-Content/burp-parameter-names.txt:FUZZ - u \\ http://admin.academy.htb:PORT/admin/admin.php - X POST - d 'FUZZ=key' - H 'Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded' - fs xxx$ 

# **Value Fuzzing**

In value fussing the command should be fairly similar to the POST command we used to fuzz for parameters, but our FUZZ keyword should be put where the parameter value would be, and we will use the ids.txt wordlist we just created, as follows:

Creating ids.tx command:- for i in \$(seq 1 1000); do echo \$i >> ids.txt; done

```
(non) (kell) - [/home/coderic/Downloads/htb_academy]
| for i in s(set 1 1000); do echo $i >> ids.txt; done
| (non) (kell) - [/home/coderic/Downloads/htb_academy]
| scademy-regular.ovpn flag.txt id_rsa ids.txt LinEnum.sh 'Meterpreter_(shell) _Attacks' shell.php windows
| (non) (kell) - [/home/coderic/Downloads/htb_academy]
| cat ids.txt
| 1
| 2
| 3
| 4
| 5
| 6
| 7
```

Value fuzzing command:- ffuf -w ids.txt:FUZZ -u http://admin.academy.htb:PORT/admin/admin.php -X POST -d 'id=FUZZ' -H 'Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded' -fs xxx

# **Questions**

Target: 94.237.62.195:31885

Try to create the 'ids.txt' wordlist, identify the accepted value with a fuzzing scan, and then use it in a 'POST' request with 'curl' to collect the flag. What is the content of the flag?

Ans: HTB{p4r4m373r\_fuzz1n6\_15\_k3y!}

Ids.txt created:

Identifying the accepted value with a fuzzing scan: Command used:-

ffuf -w ids.txt:FUZZ -u http://admin.academy.htb:31885/admin/admin.php -X POST -d 'id=FUZZ' -H 'Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded' -fs 768

```
| The content |
```

Using the value achieved in a 'POST' request with 'curl' to collect the flag.

Command Used:- curl http://admin.academy.htb:31885/admin/admin.php -X POST -d 'id=73' -H 'Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded'

#### **Results:**

```
col taty (Mass Lademy Chast tat (Nas Stater)

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col taty (Mass Ladems (Nas Nas Mass (Nas Stater)

col taty (Mass Ladems (Nas Nas Mass (Nas Stater)

col taty (Mass Ladems (Nas Nas Mass (Nas Stater)

col taty (Mass Ladems (Nas Mass (Nas Mas
```

Flag is:- HTB{p4r4m373r\_fuzz1n6\_15\_k3y!}

# **Skills Assessment - Web Fuzzing**

You are given an online academy's IP address but have no further information about their website. As the first step of conducting a Penetration Test, you are expected to locate all pages and domains linked to their IP to enumerate the IP and domains properly.

Finally, you should do some fuzzing on pages you identify to see if any of them has any parameters that can be interacted with. If you do find active parameters, see if you can retrieve any data from them.

# **Questions**

Target: 94.237.54.48:56364

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)

Ans: test archive faculty

Command Used:- ffuf -w /usr/share/seclists/Discovery/DNS/subdomains-top1million-5000.txt:FUZZ -u http://academy.htb:56364/ -H 'Host: FUZZ.academy.htb' -fs 985

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

Ans: php7 php phps

Command used:- ffuf -w /usr/share/seclists/Web-Content/web-extensions.txt:FUZZ -u http://<domain>.academy.htb:56364/indexFUZZ

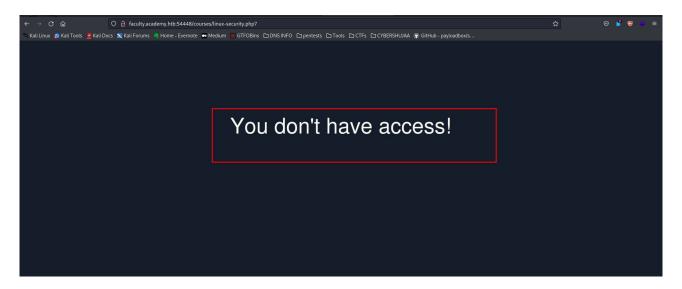
# Test domain:

```
| Contend Nat | - | Chome / Content / Chome | Content / Chome | Chome
```

Archive domain did not give a result

Faculty domain:

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



In the page from the previous question, you should be able to find multiple parameters that are accepted by the page. What are they?

# Ans: user, username

Command used:- ffuf -w /usr/share/seclists/Discovery/burp-parameter-names.txt:FUZZ -u http://faculty.academy.htb:54448/courses/linux-security.php7 -X POST -d 'FUZZ=key' -H 'Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded' -fs 774

# **Results:**

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

First was to identify a username: **Harry** 

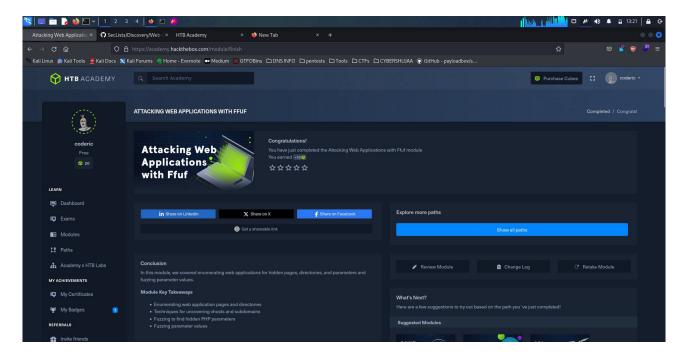
Command used:- ffuf -w /usr/share/wfuzz/wordlist/others/names.txt:FUZZ -u http://faculty.academy.htb:54448/courses/linux-security.php7 -X POST -d 'username=FUZZ' -H 'Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded' -fs 78

Next is to pass this username in our parameter.

```
The state of the s
```

HTB{w3b\_fuzz1n6\_m4573r}

# Finish.



# Conclusion.

In my conclusion, the module on attacking web applications with FFUF in the Hack The Box Academy has provided me with valuable insights into the powerful capabilities of FFUF as a versatile web fuzzer. By exploring various techniques and strategies, I have gained a deeper understanding of how to efficiently discover hidden directories, files and potential vulnerabilities within web applications. The hands-on approach and practical exercises offered in this module has equipped me with practical skills applicable to real-world penetration testing scenarios. I can now say I am better equipped to assess and secure web applications by leveraging FFUF's robust features in their ethical hacking endeavors than I was before.

## Thank You.