

# ACCESS DENIED

---

KEEPING YOURSELF OFF AN ATTACKER'S RADAR

Paul Gilzow

gilzow@missouri.edu

Twitter: @gilzow

Facebook: <https://fb.com/gilzow>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/gilzow>

# A LITTLE ABOUT ME

---

- ▶ With the University of Missouri since 2000
- ▶ Programmer/Analyst since 2005
- ▶ Developing WordPress sites since 2009
- ▶ Maintainer and current author of the wpDirAuth plugin
- ▶ Author and maintainer of a WordPress MVC development framework

# WHAT WE WILL TALK ABOUT

---

- ▶ Why WordPress is an attractive target
- ▶ Why Education is an attractive target
- ▶ Current state of web application security
- ▶ Tools available
- ▶ WPScan
- ▶ Counter-measures

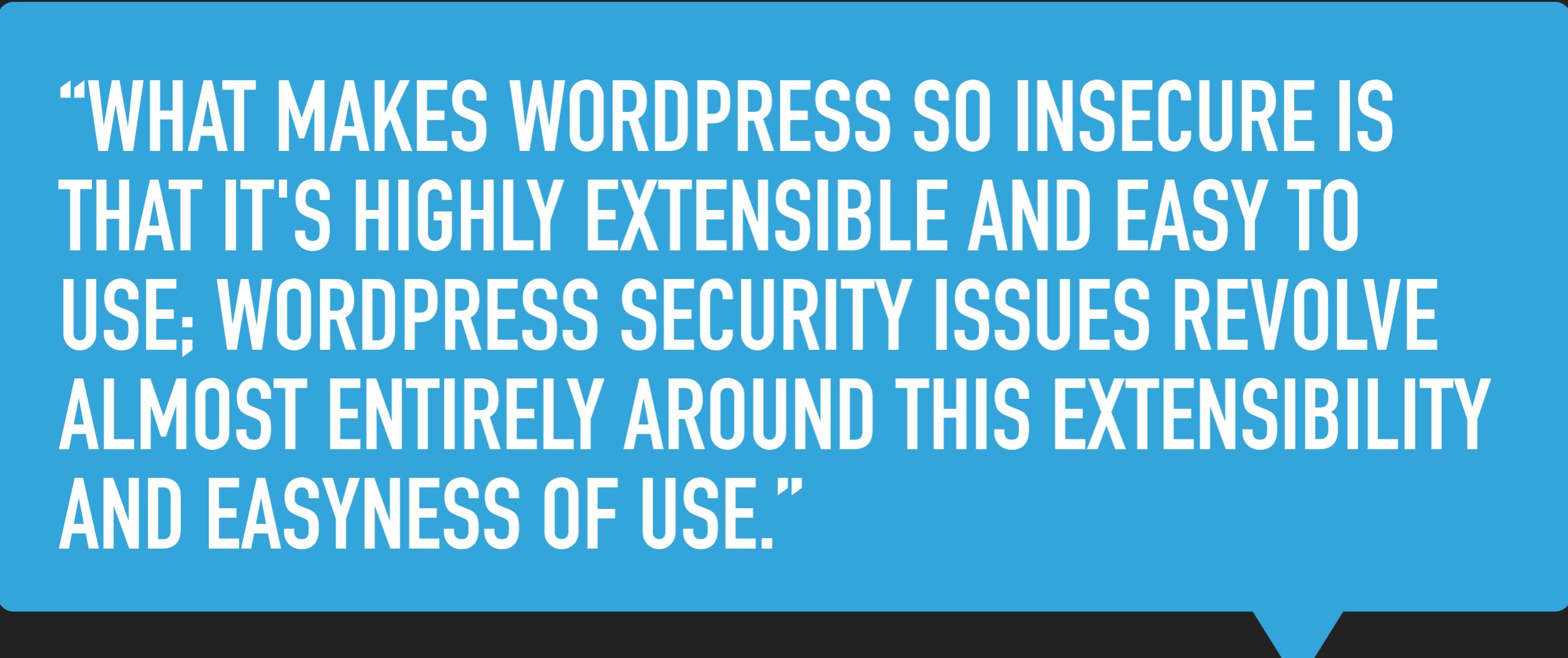
# WHY WORDPRESS IS AN ATTRACTIVE TARGET

---

- ▶ Market share
- ▶ Open Source
- ▶ Anyone can create and submit a theme/plugin
- ▶ Extremely easy to set up and get running, not so easy to secure

---

“WHAT MAKES WORDPRESS SO INSECURE IS THAT IT'S HIGHLY EXTENSIBLE AND EASY TO USE; WORDPRESS SECURITY ISSUES REVOLVE ALMOST ENTIRELY AROUND THIS EXTENSIBILITY AND EASYNESS OF USE.”



Tony Perez, @perezbox

# WHY EDUCATION IS AN ATTRACTIVE TARGET

---

- ▶ Network bandwidth and availability
- ▶ Rich in hardware infrastructure
- ▶ Poor in human resources
- ▶ Resistant to blacklisting
- ▶ SEO reputation
- ▶ Personally Identifiable Information (PII) / Sensitive Personal Information (SPI)

# CURRENT STATE OF WEB APPLICATION SECURITY

---

- ▶ Education, 49% of sites had at least one vulnerability every day of the year<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ Education, average of 28 vulnerabilities per site, 15 of those serious<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ Education, took an average of 4 months to remediate issues<sup>1</sup>

# CURRENT STATE OF WORDPRESS SECURITY

---

- ▶ Most compromises occur through
  - ▶ vulnerable plugins and themes
  - ▶ Weak passwords
  - ▶ Wordpress out-of-date

**AS AN OWNER/MAINTAINER OF A  
WORDPRESS SITE, IT IS YOUR  
RESPONSIBILITY TO BE PARANOID**

# AVAILABLE TOOLS

---

- ▶ [BuiltWith.com](http://BuiltWith.com)
- ▶ Wappalyzer (Firefox, Chrome, Opera + bookmarklet)
- ▶ CMSmap : <https://github.com/dionach/CMSmap>
- ▶ Droopescan : <https://github.com/droope/droopescan>
- ▶ WPScan : <http://wpscan.org/>

# WPSCAN

---

## Passive Scan

- ▶ Robots.txt
- ▶ Interesting headers
- ▶ Multisite
- ▶ Must-use plugins
- ▶ Xml-rpc
- ▶ Wordpress version
- ▶ Plugins/themes

```
root@kali:~# wpSCAN --url wpcampus.org
```



WordPress Security Scanner by the WPScan Team

Version 2.9.1

Sponsored by Sucuri - <https://sucuri.net>

@\_WPScan\_, @\_ethicalhack3r, @\_erwan\_lr, pvdl, @\_FireFart\_

```
[i] The remote host tried to redirect to: https://wpcampus.org/
[?] Do you want follow the redirection ? [Y]es [N]o [A]bort, default: [N]y
[+] URL: https://wpcampus.org/
[+] Started: Sun Jul 10 06:56:21 2016

[+] robots.txt available under: 'https://wpcampus.org/robots.txt'
[+] Interesting entry from robots.txt: https://wpcampus.org/wp-admin/admin-ajax.php
[+] Interesting header: KEEP-ALIVE: timeout=20
[+] Interesting header: LINK: <https://wpcampus.org/wp-json/>; rel="https://api.w.org/"
[+] Interesting header: LINK: <https://wpcampus.org/>; rel=shortlink
[+] Interesting header: SERVER: nginx
[+] Interesting header: X-CACHE: HIT: 3
[+] Interesting header: X-CACHE-GROUP: normal
[+] Interesting header: X-CACHEABLE: SHORT
[+] Interesting header: X-PASS-WHY:
[+] Interesting header: X-TYPE: default
[+] This site seems to be a multisite (http://codex.wordpress.org/Glossary#Multisite)
[+] This site has 'Must Use Plugins' (http://codex.wordpress.org/Must\_Use\_Plugins)
[+] XML-RPC Interface available under: https://wpcampus.org/xmlrpc.php

[+] WordPress version 4.5.3 identified from advanced fingerprinting (Released on 2016-06-21)

[+] Enumerating plugins from passive detection ...
| 1 plugin found:

[+] Name: google-maps-builder-pro - v2.0.1
| Location: https://wpcampus.org/wp-content/plugins/google-maps-builder-pro/
| Readme: https://wpcampus.org/wp-content/plugins/google-maps-builder-pro/README.txt
| 
[+] Finished: Sun Jul 10 06:56:30 2016
[+] Requests Done: 47
[+] Memory used: 63.008 MB
```

```
38     </script>
39     <style type="text/css">
40 img.wp-smiley,
41 img.emoji {
42     display: inline !important;
43     border: none !important;
44     box-shadow: none !important;
45     height: 1em !important;
46     width: 1em !important;
47     margin: 0 .07em !important;
48     vertical-align: -0.1em !important;
49     background: none !important;
50     padding: 0 !important;
51 }
52 </style>
53 <link rel='stylesheet' id='give-styles-css' href='https://wpcampus.org/wp-content/plugins/give/templates/give.min.css?ver=1.5.2' type='text/css' media='all' />
54 <link rel='stylesheet' id='google-maps-builder-plugin-styles-css' href='https://wpcampus.org/wp-content/plugins/google-maps-builder-pro/assets/css/google-maps-
builder.min.css?ver=2.0.1' type='text/css' media='all' />
55 <link rel='stylesheet' id='google-maps-builder-map-icons-css' href='https://wpcampus.org/wp-content/plugins/google-maps-builder-pro/includes/libraries/map-
icons/css/map-icons.css?ver=2.0.1' type='text/css' media='all' />
56 <link rel='stylesheet' id='wpcampus-fonts-css' href='https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Open+Sans%3A600%2C400%2C300%038;ver=4.5.3' type='text/css' media='all' />
57 <link rel='stylesheet' id='wpcampus-css' href='https://wpcampus.org/wp-content/themes/wpcampus/css/styles.min.css?ver=0.58' type='text/css' media='all' />
58 <script type='text/javascript' src='https://wpcampus.org/wp-includes/js/jquery/jquery.js?ver=1.12.4'></script>
59 <script type='text/javascript' src='https://wpcampus.org/wp-includes/js/jquery/jquery-migrate.min.js?ver=1.4.1'></script>
60 <script type='text/javascript'>
61 /* <![CDATA[ */
62 var give_global_vars = {"ajaxurl":"https://wpcampus.org/wp-admin/admin-
ajax.php","checkout_nonce":"1f42ab319a","currency_sign":"$","currency_pos":"before","thousands_separator":",","decimal_separator":".",,"no_gateway":"Please select a
payment method","bad_minimum":"The minimum donation amount for this form is","general_loading":"Loading...","purchase_loading":"Please
Wait...","number_decimals":2,"give_version": "1.5.2"};
63 var give_scripts = {"ajaxurl":"https://wpcampus.org/wp-admin/admin-ajax.php","loading":"Loading","select_option":"Please select an
option","default_gateway": "manual","permalinks": "1","number_decimals":2};
64 /* ]]> */
65 </script>
66 <script type='text/javascript' src='https://wpcampus.org/wp-content/plugins/give/assets/js/frontend/give.all.min.js?ver=1.5.2'></script>
67 <script type='text/javascript' src='https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax/libs/modernizr/2.8.3/modernizr.min.js?ver=4.5.3'></script>
```



vagrantpress.dev/wp-admin/users.php

Access Denied 2 0 + New Howdy, Access Denied Admin

Dashboard Posts Media Pages Comments Appearance Plugins 2 Users All Users Add New Your Profile Tools Settings Collapse menu

Screen Options Help

## Users [Add New](#)

All (5) | Administrator (1) | Editor (1) | Author (1) | Contributor (1) | Subscriber (1)

Bulk Actions [Apply](#) Change role to... [Change](#)

|                          | Username           | Name                    | Email                 | Role          | Posts |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | admin              | Paul Gilzow             | gilzow@missouri.edu   | Administrator | 1     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | gilzow-author      | Paul-Author Gilzow      | paul@gilzow.com       | Author        | 1     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | gilzow-contributor | Paul-Contributor Gilzow | paul.gilzow@gmail.com | Contributor   | 0     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | gilzow-editor      | Paul-Editor Gilzow      | gilzowp@missouri.edu  | Editor        | 1     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | gilzow-subscriber  | Paul-Subscriber Gilzow  | wkdirauth@gilzow.com  | Subscriber    | 0     |

Bulk Actions [Apply](#) Change role to... [Change](#)

5 items

Thank you for creating with WordPress.

Version 4.5.3

vagrantpress.dev/wp-admin/edit.php

Access Denied 2 0 + New Howdy, Access Denied Admin

Dashboard Posts Add New Screen Options Help

All (3) | Mine (1) | Published (3) Search Posts

Bulk Actions Apply All dates All Categories Filter 3 items

|                          |                        | Author                 | Categories    | Tags |   | Date                    |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|------|---|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Title                  |                        |               |      |   |                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Author first post      | Paul-Author<br>Gilzow  | Uncategorized | —    | — | Published<br>2016/07/01 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Editor very first post | Paul-Editor<br>Gilzow  | Uncategorized | —    | — | Published<br>2016/07/01 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Hello world!           | Access Denied<br>Admin | Uncategorized | —    | 1 | Published<br>2013/01/22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Title                  | Author                 | Categories    | Tags |   | Date                    |

Bulk Actions Apply 3 items

Thank you for creating with WordPress. Version 4.5.3

Apps Bookmarks reboots home access-denied work Other Bookmarks

vagrantpress.dev/wp-admin/plugins.php

Access Denied 2 0 + New Howdy, Access Denied Admin

Dashboard Posts Media Pages Comments Appearance Plugins 2

Installed Plugins Add New Editor

Users Tools Settings Collapse menu

Screen Options Help

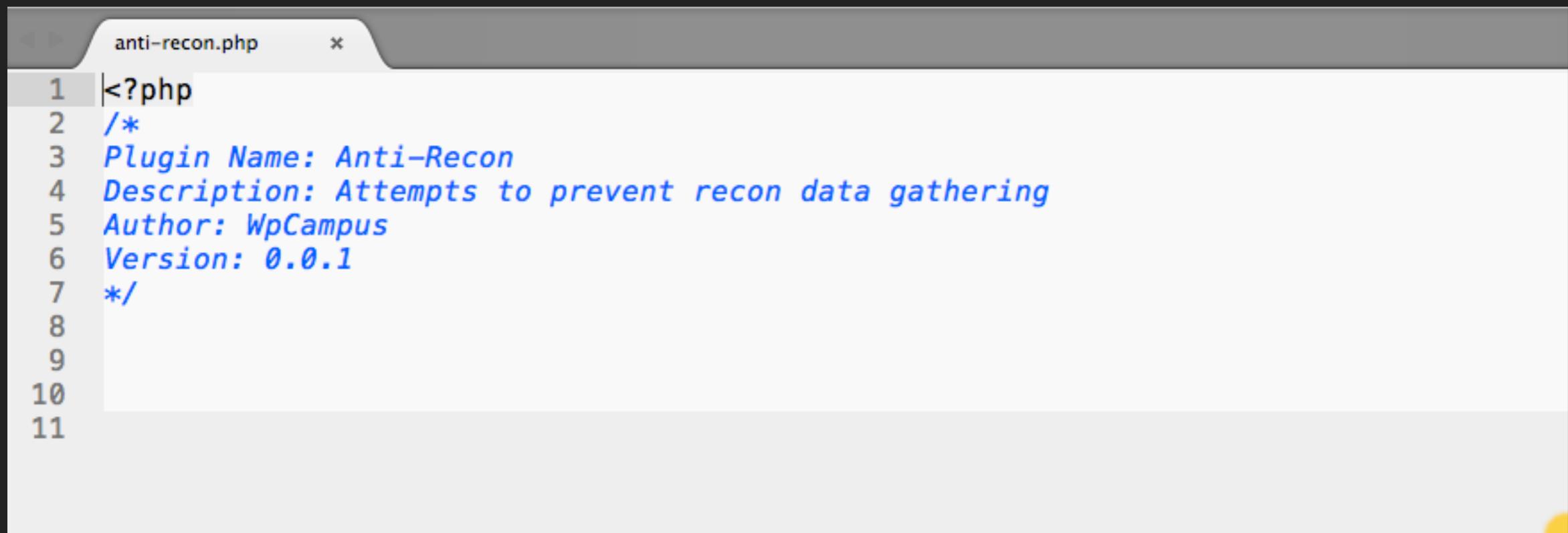
## Plugins [Add New](#)

All (8) Active (1) Inactive (7) | Recently Active (2) | Update Available (2)

Bulk Actions [Apply](#)

| <input type="checkbox"/> Plugin                       | Description  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Akismet                      | Used by millions, Akismet is quite possibly the best way in the world to protect your blog from spam. It keeps your site protected even while you sleep. To get started: 1) Click the "Activate" link to the left of this description, 2) <a href="#">Sign up for an Akismet plan</a> to get an API key, and 3) Go to your Akismet configuration page, and save your API key.<br>Version 3.1.11   By <a href="#">Automattic</a>   <a href="#">View details</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anti-Recon                   | Attempts to prevent recon data gathering<br>Version 0.0.1   By <a href="#">WpCampus</a>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aspose Cloud eBook Generator | Aspose Cloud eBook Generator is a plugin for exporting content from Posts/Pages and then downloading it in desired format.<br>Version 2.0   By <a href="#">Fahad Adeel</a>   <a href="#">View details</a>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Download Manager             | Manage, track and control file download from your WordPress site<br>Version 2.6.96   By <a href="#">Shaon</a>   <a href="#">View details</a><br><br>There is a new version of Download Manager available. <a href="#">View version 2.8.98 details</a> or update now.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gravity Forms                | Easily create web forms and manage form entries within the WordPress admin.<br>Version 1.9.10.2   By <a href="#">rocketgenius</a>   <a href="#">Visit plugin site</a>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hello Dolly                  | This is not just a plugin, it symbolizes the hope and enthusiasm of an entire generation summed up in two words sung most famously by Louis Armstrong: Hello, Dolly. When activated you will randomly see a lyric from Hello, Dolly in the upper right of your admin screen on every page.<br>Version 1.6   By <a href="#">Matt Mullenweg</a>   <a href="#">View details</a>   |

Search Installed Plugins 8 items



A screenshot of a code editor window titled "anti-recon.php". The code is a PHP file containing a single-line opening tag and a multi-line comment block. The comment block provides plugin metadata: Name, Description, Author, and Version.

```
1 <?php
2 /*
3  Plugin Name: Anti-Recon
4  Description: Attempts to prevent recon data gathering
5  Author: WpCampus
6  Version: 0.0.1
7 */
8
9
10
11
```

vagrantpress.dev/wp-admin/plugins.php

Access Denied 2 0 + New Howdy, Access Denied Admin

Dashboard Posts Media Pages Comments Appearance Plugins 2

All (8) Active (1) Inactive (7) | Recently Active (2) | Update Available (2)

Screen Options Help

Search Installed Plugins 8 items

Plugin Description

Akismet Used by millions, Akismet is quite possibly the best way in the world to protect your blog from spam. It keeps your site protected even while you sleep. To get started: 1) Click the "Activate" link to the left of this description, 2) Sign up for an Akismet plan to get an API key, and 3) Go to your Akismet configuration page, and save your API key.

Version 3.1.11 | By Automattic | View details

Anti-Recon Attempts to prevent recon data gathering

Version 0.0.1 | By WpCampus

Aspose Cloud eBook Generator Aspose Cloud eBook Generator is a plugin for exporting content from Posts/Pages and then downloading it in desired format.

Version 2.0 | By Fahad Adeel | View details

Download Manager Manage, track and control file download from your WordPress site

Version 2.6.96 | By Shaon | View details

There is a new version of Download Manager available. [View version 2.8.98 details](#) or update now.

Gravity Forms Easily create web forms and manage form entries within the WordPress admin.

Version 1.9.10.2 | By rocketgenius | Visit plugin site

Hello Dolly This is not just a plugin, it symbolizes the hope and enthusiasm of an entire generation summed up in two words sung most famously by Louis Armstrong: Hello, Dolly. When activated you will randomly see a lyric from Hello, Dolly in the upper right of your admin screen on every page.

Version 1.6 | By Matt Mullenweg | View details

```
root@kali:~# wpscan --url vagrantpress.dev
```



WordPress Security Scanner by the WPScan Team

Version 2.9.1

Sponsored by Sucuri - <https://Sucuri.net>

@\_WPScan\_, @\_ethicalhack3r, @\_erwan\_lr, pvdL, @\_FireFart\_

```
[+] URL: http://vagrantpress.dev/
[+] Started: Sun Jul 10 07:43:13 2016

[+] robots.txt available under: 'http://vagrantpress.dev/robots.txt'
[!] The WordPress 'http://vagrantpress.dev/readme.html' file exists exposing a version number
[+] Interesting header: LINK: <http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-json/>; rel="https://api.w.org/"
[+] Interesting header: SERVER: Apache/2.4.7 (Ubuntu)
[+] XML-RPC Interface available under: http://vagrantpress.dev/xmlrpc.php
[!] Upload directory has directory listing enabled: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/uploads/
[!] Includes directory has directory listing enabled: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-includes/

[+] WordPress version 4.5.3 identified from meta generator (Released on 2016-06-21)

[+] WordPress theme in use: twentysixteen - v1.2

[+] Name: twentysixteen - v1.2
| Latest version: 1.2 (up to date)
| Location: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/themes/twentysixteen/
| Readme: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/themes/twentysixteen/readme.txt
| Style URL: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/themes/twentysixteen/style.css
| Theme Name: Twenty Sixteen
| Theme URI: https://wordpress.org/themes/twentysixteen/
| Description: Twenty Sixteen is a modernized take on an ever-popular WordPress layout – the horizontal masthe...
| Author: the WordPress team
| Author URI: https://wordpress.org/

[+] Enumerating plugins from passive detection ...
[+] No plugins found

[+] Finished: Sun Jul 10 07:43:17 2016
[+] Requests Done: 37
[+] Memory used: 7.062 MB
[+] Elapsed time: 00:00:03
```

# Index of /wp-content/plugins/wp-mobile-detector

|   | <u>Name</u>                                     | <u>Last modified</u> | <u>Size</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|---|---|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|
|    | <a href="#">Parent Directory</a>                |                      | -           |                    |
|    | <a href="#">admin/</a>                          | 2016-06-03 00:30     | -           |                    |
|    | <a href="#">cache/</a>                          | 2016-07-15 14:55     | -           |                    |
|    | <a href="#">default-widgets.php</a>             | 2010-12-07 09:26     | 42K         |                    |
|  | <a href="#">functions.php</a>                   | 2016-01-19 05:50     | 67K         |                    |
|  | <a href="#">js/</a>                             | 2016-06-03 00:30     | -           |                    |
|  | <a href="#">locale/</a>                         | 2016-06-03 00:30     | -           |                    |
|  | <a href="#">readme.txt</a>                      | 2016-06-03 00:30     | 7.8K        |                    |
|  | <a href="#">resize.php</a>                      | 2016-06-22 19:42     | 1.5K        |                    |
|  | <a href="#">themes/</a>                         | 2016-06-03 00:30     | -           |                    |
|  | <a href="#">timthumb.php</a>                    | 2016-01-19 04:28     | 50          |                    |
|  | <a href="#">websitez-wp-mobile-detector.php</a> | 2016-01-19 04:28     | 4.9K        |                    |

# COUNTER MEASURE

---

- ▶ Disable Directory listings
- ▶ In .htaccess in the root of the site

OPTIONS -INDEXES

- ▶ ask your host to disable in your account

root@kali:~# wpscan --url vagrantpress.dev



WordPress Security Scanner by the WPScan Team  
Version 2.9.1

Sponsored by Sucuri - <https://sucuri.net>  
 @\_WPScan\_, @\_ethicalhack3r, @erwan\_lr, pvdL, @\_FireFart\_

```
[+] URL: http://vagrantpress.dev/  
[+] Started: Sun Jul 10 07:43:13 2016  
  
[+] robots.txt available under: 'http://vagrantpress.dev/robots.txt'  
[!] The WordPress 'http://vagrantpress.dev/readme.html' file exists exposing a version number  
[+] Interesting header: LINK: <http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-json/>; rel="https://api.w.org/"  
[+] Interesting header: SERVER: Apache/2.4.7 (Ubuntu)  
[+] XML-RPC Interface available under: http://vagrantpress.dev/xmlrpc.php  
[!] Upload directory has directory listing enabled: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/uploads/  
[!] Includes directory has directory listing enabled: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-includes/  
  
[+] WordPress version 4.5.3 identified from meta generator (Released on 2016-06-21)  
  
[+] WordPress theme in use: twentysixteen - v1.2  
  
[+] Name: twentysixteen - v1.2  
| Latest version: 1.2 (up to date)  
| Location: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/themes/twentysixteen/  
| Readme: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/themes/twentysixteen/readme.txt  
| Style URL: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/themes/twentysixteen/style.css  
| Theme Name: Twenty Sixteen  
| Theme URI: https://wordpress.org/themes/twentysixteen/  
| Description: Twenty Sixteen is a modernized take on an ever-popular WordPress layout – the horizontal masthe...  
| Author: the WordPress team  
| Author URI: https://wordpress.org/  
  
[+] Enumerating plugins from passive detection ...  
[+] No plugins found  
  
[+] Finished: Sun Jul 10 07:43:17 2016  
[+] Requests Done: 37  
[+] Memory used: 7.062 MB  
[+] Elapsed time: 00:00:03
```

# WPSCAN

---

## Active scan

- ▶ Scans for signs of vulnerable plugins
- ▶ Scans for signs of vulnerable themes
- ▶ Scans for signs of timthumb
- ▶ Attempts to enumerate user account names

```
root@kali:~# wpscan --url vagrantpress.dev --enumerate vp
[+] URL: http://vagrantpress.dev/vagrantpress.dev Port 80
[+] Started: Mon Jul 11 02:20:24 2016

[+] robots.txt available under: 'http://vagrantpress.dev/robots.txt'
[!] The WordPress 'http://vagrantpress.dev/readme.html' file exists exposing a version number
[+] Interesting header: LINK: <http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-json/>; rel="https://api.w.org/"
[+] Interesting header: SERVER: Apache/2.4.7 (Ubuntu)
[+] XML-RPC Interface available under: http://vagrantpress.dev/xmlrpc.php

[+] WordPress version 4.5.3 identified from meta generator (Released on 2016-06-21)

[+] WordPress theme in use: twentysixteen - v1.2

[+] Name: twentysixteen - v1.2
Latest version: 1.2 (up to date)
Location: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/themes/twentysixteen/
Readme: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/themes/twentysixteen/readme.txt
Style URL: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/themes/twentysixteen/style.css
Theme Name: Twenty Sixteen
Theme URI: https://wordpress.org/themes/twentysixteen/
Description: Twenty Sixteen is a modernized take on an ever-popular WordPress layout – the horizontal masthe...
Author: the WordPress team
Author URI: https://wordpress.org/

[+] Enumerating installed plugins (only ones with known vulnerabilities) ...

Time: 00:01:05 <===== (1344 / 1344) 100.00% Time: 00:01:05
[+] We found 5 plugins:

[+] Name: akismet
Latest version: 3.1.11
Location: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/plugins/akismet/
```

vagrantpress.dev/wp-admin/plugins.php

Access Denied 2 0 + New Howdy, Access Denied Admin

Dashboard Posts Media Pages Comments Appearance Plugins 2

All (8) Active (1) Inactive (7) | Recently Active (2) | Update Available (2)

Screen Options Help

Search Installed Plugins 8 items

Plugin Description

Akismet Used by millions, Akismet is quite possibly the best way in the world to protect your blog from spam. It keeps your site protected even while you sleep. To get started: 1) Click the "Activate" link to the left of this description, 2) Sign up for an Akismet plan to get an API key, and 3) Go to your Akismet configuration page, and save your API key.

Version 3.1.11 | By Automattic | View details

Anti-Recon Attempts to prevent recon data gathering

Version 0.0.1 | By WpCampus

Aspose Cloud eBook Generator Aspose Cloud eBook Generator is a plugin for exporting content from Posts/Pages and then downloading it in desired format.

Version 2.0 | By Fahad Adeel | View details

Download Manager Manage, track and control file download from your WordPress site

Version 2.6.96 | By Shaon | View details

There is a new version of Download Manager available. [View version 2.8.98 details](#) or update now.

Gravity Forms Easily create web forms and manage form entries within the WordPress admin.

Version 1.9.10.2 | By rocketgenius | Visit plugin site

Hello Dolly This is not just a plugin, it symbolizes the hope and enthusiasm of an entire generation summed up in two words sung most famously by Louis Armstrong: Hello, Dolly. When activated you will randomly see a lyric from Hello, Dolly in the upper right of your admin screen on every page.

Version 1.6 | By Matt Mullenweg | View details

```
[+] Name: download-manager v2.6.96
| Location: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/plugins/download-manager/
| README: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/plugins/download-manager/readme.txt
[!] The version is out of date, the latest version is 2.8.98

[!] Title: Download Manager <= 2.7.4 - Code Execution / Remote File Inclusion
Reference: https://wpvulndb.com/vulnerabilities/7700
Reference: http://blog.sucuri.net/2014/12/security-advisory-high-severity-wordpress-download-manager.html
Reference: https://www.rapid7.com/db/modules/exploit/unix/webapp/wp_downloadmanager_upload
Reference: https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/35533/
[i] Fixed in: 2.7.5

[!] Title: Download Manager 2.7.2 - Privilege Escalation
Reference: https://wpvulndb.com/vulnerabilities/7827
Reference: http://security.szurek.pl/wordpress-download-manager-272-privilege-escalation.html
Reference: http://packetstormsecurity.com/files/130690/
Reference: https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2014-9260
Reference: https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/36301/
[i] Fixed in: 2.7.3

[!] Title: WordPress Download Manager <= 2.7.94 - Authenticated Stored XSS
Reference: https://wpvulndb.com/vulnerabilities/8101
Reference: https://plugins.trac.wordpress.org/changeset/1199505/download-manager
Reference: http://packetstormsecurity.com/files/132716/
[i] Fixed in: 2.7.95

[!] Title: WordPress Download Manager <= 2.8.7 - Multiple Vulnerabilities
Reference: https://wpvulndb.com/vulnerabilities/9265
Reference: http://www.protect.net/blog/wordpress-download-manager-2-8-8-critical-security-vulnerabilities
Reference: http://www.wpdownloadmanager.com/wordpress-download-manager-security-maintenance-release/
[i] Fixed in: 2.8.8

[+] Name: gravityforms
| Location: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/plugins/gravityforms/

[!] We could not determine a version so all vulnerabilities are printed out

[!] Title: Gravity Forms <= 1.8.19 - Arbitrary File Upload
Reference: https://wpvulndb.com/vulnerabilities/7820
Reference: http://blog.sucuri.net/2015/02/malware-clean-up-to-arbitrary-file-upload-in-gravity-forms.html
Reference: http://www.gravityhelp.com/gravity-forms-v1-8-20-released/
[i] Fixed in: 1.8.20

[!] Title: Gravity Forms 1.8 <= 1.9.3.5 - Authenticated Blind SQL Injection
```

```
[+] Name: wp-mobile-detector - v2.7
| Location: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/plugins/wp-mobile-detector/
| Readme: http://vagrantpress.dev/wp-content/plugins/wp-mobile-detector/readme.txt
[!] The version is out of date, the latest version is 3.7
[!] Title: WP Mobile Detector <= 3.2 - Persistent Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
Reference: https://wpvulndb.com/vulnerabilities/8059
Reference: https://research.g0blin.co.uk/g0blin-00050/
[i] Fixed in: 3.3
[!] Title: WP Mobile Detector <= 3.5 - Arbitrary File Upload
Reference: https://wpvulndb.com/vulnerabilities/8505
Reference: https://blog.sucuri.net/2016/06/wp-mobile-detector-vulnerability-being-exploited-in-the-wild.html
Reference: https://www.pluginvulnerabilities.com/2016/05/31/arbitrary-file-upload-vulnerability-in-wp-mobile-detector/
Reference: https://wordpress.org/plugins/wp-mobile-detector/changelog/
[i] Fixed in: 3.6
[+] Finished: Mon Jul 11 02:21:37 2016
[+] Requests Done: 1413
[+] Memory used: 128.262 MB
[+] Elapsed time: 00:01:13
```

# COUNTER MEASURES

---

- ▶ Protect wp-content
- ▶ Prevent php execution

```
#we dont want to allow access directly to any php files
<FilesMatch "\.(?i:php)$">
    <IfModule !mod_authz_core.c>
        Order allow,deny
        Deny from all
    </IfModule>
    <IfModule mod_authz_core.c>
        Require all denied
    </IfModule>
</FilesMatch>
```

# COUNTER MEASURES

---

- ▶ Protect wp-content
  - ▶ Prevent php execution
  - ▶ Implicit deny (only allow what is necessary and expected)

```
RewriteEngine On

#allow images jpg,jpeg,gif,png,svg,bmp,ico
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:jpe?g|gif|png|svg|bmp|ico)$ [NC]

#allow js, css and fonts
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:css|js|eot|ttf|woff|woff2)$ [NC]

# allow documents: pdf, doc, docx, xls, xlsx, pps, ppsx, ppt, ppx, psd, odt, key
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:pdf|docx?|xlsx?|pp[st]x?|psd|odt|key)$ [NC]

# allow audio, video: mp2, mp3, mp4, mp5, mpg, m4a, m4v, ogg, ogv, wav, mov, wma, wmv, avi, 3gp, 3g2
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:mp[2-5g]|m4[av]|og[gv]|wav|mov|wm[av]|avi|3g[p2])$ [NC]

#allow data
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:xml|json)$ [NC]

RewriteRule .* - [F,L]
```

```
RewriteEngine On

#Don't allow screenshots
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} screenshot(?:\-\d+)?\.(?:jpe?g|png|gif)$ [NC,OR]

#allow images jpg,jpeg,gif,png,svg,bmp,ico
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:jpe?g|gif|png|svg|bmp|ico)$ [NC]

#allow js, css and fonts
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:css|js|eot|ttf|woff|woff2)$ [NC]

# allow documents: pdf, doc, docx, xls, xlsx, pps, ppsx, ppt, pptx, psd, odt, key
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:pdf|docx?|xlsx?|pp[st]x?|psd|odt|key)$ [NC]

# allow audio, video: mp2, mp3, mp4, mp5, mpg, m4a, m4v, ogg, ogv, wav, mov, wma, wmv, avi, 3gp, 3g2
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:mp[2-5g]|m4[av]|og[gv]|wav|mov|wm[av]|avi|3g[p2])$ [NC]

#allow data
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:xml|json)$ [NC]

RewriteRule .* - [F,L]
```

```
RewriteEngine On

#Don't allow screenshots
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} screenshot(?:\-\d+)?\.(?:jpe?g|png|gif)$ [NC,OR]

#uncomment if you have a specific file you need
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !plugins/baz/foo\.php$ [NC]

#allow images jpg,jpeg,gif,png,svg,bmp,ico
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:jpe?g|gif|png|svg|bmp|ico)$ [NC]

#allow js, css and fonts
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:css|js|eot|ttf|woff|woff2)$ [NC]

# allow documents: pdf, doc, docx, xls, xlsx, pps, ppsx, ppt, pptx, psd, odt, key
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:pdf|docx|xlsx?|pp[st]x?|psd|odt|key)$ [NC]

# allow audio, video: mp2, mp3, mp4, mp5, mpg, m4a, m4v, ogg, ogv, wav, mov, wma, wmv, avi, 3gp, 3g2
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:mp[2-5g]|m4[av]|og[gv]|wav|mov|wm[av]|avi|3g[p2])$ [NC]

#allow data
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:xml|json)$ [NC]

RewriteRule .* - [F,L]
```

```
RewriteEngine On
ErrorDocument 403 /404

#Don't allow screenshots
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} screenshot(?:\-\d+)?\.(?:jpe?g|png|gif)$ [NC,OR]

#uncomment if you have a specific file you need
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !plugins/baz/foo\.php$ [NC]

#allow images jpg,jpeg,gif,png,svg,bmp,ico
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:jpe?g|gif|png|svg|bmp|ico)$ [NC]

#allow js, css and fonts
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:css|js|eot|ttf|woff|woff2)$ [NC]

# allow documents: pdf, doc, docx, xls, xlsx, pps, ppsx, ppt, pptx, psd, odt, key
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:pdf|docx?|xlsx?|pp[st]x?|psd|odt|key)$ [NC]

# allow audio, video: mp2, mp3, mp4, mp5, mpg, m4a, m4v, ogg, ogv, wav, mov, wma, wmv, avi, 3gp, 3g2
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:mp[2-5g]|m4[av]|og[gv]|wav|mov|wm[av]|avi|3g[p2])$ [NC]

#allow data
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !\.(?i:xml|json)$ [NC]

RewriteRule .* - [F,L]
```

# COUNTER MEASURES

---

- ▶ Protect wp-content
  - ▶ Prevent php execution
  - ▶ Implicit deny (only allow what is necessary and expected)
- ▶ Protect wp-includes

```
RewriteEngine On
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} !(?:wp-tinymce|ms-files)\.php$ [NC]
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_URI} \.php$ [NC]
RewriteRule .* - [F,L]
```

# COUNTER MEASURES

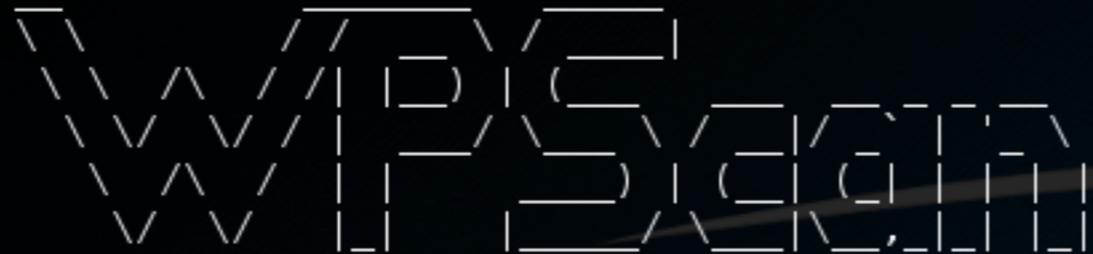
---

- ▶ Protect wp-content
  - ▶ Prevent php execution
  - ▶ Implicit deny (only allow what is necessary and expected)
- ▶ Protect wp-includes
- ▶ Protect wp-admin

```
# ideally, only allow access to those ip address/ranges that should have access
<FilesMatch ".*">
    <IfModule !mod_authz_core.c>
        deny from all
        allow from 128.206.
        allow from 161.130.
        allow from 10.7.
    </IfModule>
    <IfModule mod_authz_core.c>
        Require ip 128.206.
        Require ip 161.130.
        Require ip 10.7.
    </IfModule>
</FilesMatch>

#except for admin-ajax which needs to be accessible publicly
<Files admin-ajax.php>
    <IfModule !mod_authz_core.c>
        allow from all
    </IfModule>
    <IfModule mod_authz_core.c>
        Require all granted
    </IfModule>
</FilesMatch>
```

```
root@kali:~# wpscan --url vagrantpress.dev --enumerate u
```



WordPress Security Scanner by the WPScan Team

Version 2.9.1

Sponsored by Sucuri - <https://sucuri.net>

@\_WPScan\_, @\_ethicalhack3r, @erwan\_lr, pndl, @\_FireFart\_

```
[+] URL: http://vagrantpress.dev/  
[+] Started: Tue Jul 12 08:05:37 2016
```

```
[+] Enumerating plugins from passive detection ...  
[+] No plugins found
```

```
[+] Enumerating usernames ...  
[+] Identified the following 5 user/s:
```

| Id | Login              | Name                    |
|----|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1  | admin              | Access Denied Admin     |
| 2  | gilzow-editor      | Paul-Editor Gilzow      |
| 3  | gilzow-author      | Paul-Author Gilzow      |
| 4  | gilzow-contributor | Paul-Contributor Gilzow |
| 5  | gilzow-subscriber  | Paul-Subscriber Gilzow  |

```
[!] Default first WordPress username 'admin' is still used
```

```
[+] Finished: Tue Jul 12 08:05:42 2016  
[+] Requests Done: 53  
[+] Memory used: 7.887 MB  
[+] Elapsed time: 00:00:04
```

# COUNTER MEASURES

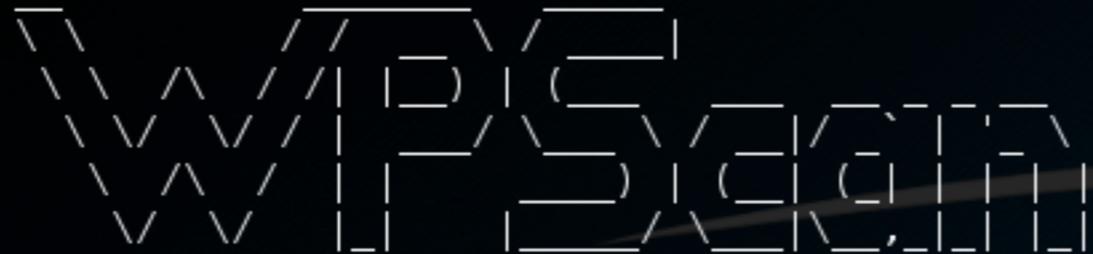
---

## Account enumeration

- ▶ Prevent ?author= redirection

```
1 <?php
2 /*
3  Plugin Name: Anti-Recon
4  Description: Attempts to prevent recon data gathering
5  Author: WpCampus
6  Version: 0.0.1
7 */
8
9 ****
10 * username anti-enumeration stuff
11 ****
12 /**
13 * Blocks remote attackers from enumerating user names
14 * @param $strRedirectionURL
15 * @param $strRequestedURL
16 * @return mixed
17 * @see https://developer.wordpress.org/reference/hooks/redirect_canonical/
18 */
19 add_filter('redirect_canonical',function($strRedirectionURL, $strRequestedURL){
20     if (1 === preg_match('/\?author=(\d+)/', $strRequestedURL)) {
21         $strRedirectionURL = false;
22     }
23
24     return $strRedirectionURL;
25 }, 10,2);
```

```
root@kali:~# wpscan --url vagrantpress.dev --enumerate u
```



WordPress Security Scanner by the WPScan Team

Version 2.9.1

Sponsored by Sucuri - <https://sucuri.net>

@\_WPScan\_, @\_ethicalhack3r, @erwan\_lr, pndl, @\_FireFart\_

```
[+] URL: http://vagrantpress.dev/  
[+] Started: Tue Jul 12 08:05:37 2016
```

```
[+] Enumerating plugins from passive detection ...  
[+] No plugins found
```

```
[+] Enumerating usernames ...  
[+] Identified the following 5 user/s:
```

| Id | Login              | Name                    |
|----|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1  | admin              | Access Denied Admin     |
| 2  | gilzow-editor      | Paul-Editor Gilzow      |
| 3  | gilzow-author      | Paul-Author Gilzow      |
| 4  | gilzow-contributor | Paul-Contributor Gilzow |
| 5  | gilzow-subscriber  | Paul-Subscriber Gilzow  |

```
[!] Default first WordPress username 'admin' is still used
```

```
[+] Finished: Tue Jul 12 08:05:42 2016  
[+] Requests Done: 53  
[+] Memory used: 7.887 MB  
[+] Elapsed time: 00:00:04
```

# COUNTER MEASURES

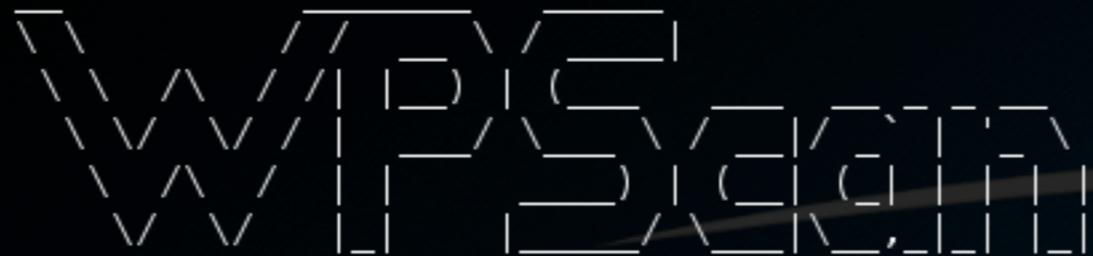
---

## Account enumeration

- ▶ Prevent ?author= redirection
- ▶ Disable account name as author permalink

```
/*
 * Force wordpress to use /?author=id for author permalink
 */
add_action('init',function(){
    global $wp_rewrite;
    $wp_rewrite->author_structure = '';
});
```

```
root@kali:~# wpscan --url vagrantpress.dev --enumerate u
```



WordPress Security Scanner by the WPScan Team

Version 2.9.1

Sponsored by Sucuri - <https://sucuri.net>

@\_WPScan\_, @\_ethicalhack3r, @erwan\_lr, pndl, @\_FireFart\_

```
[+] URL: http://vagrantpress.dev/  
[+] Started: Tue Jul 12 08:05:37 2016
```

```
[+] Enumerating plugins from passive detection ...  
[+] No plugins found
```

```
[+] Enumerating usernames ...  
[+] Identified the following 5 user/s:
```

| Id | Login              | Name                    |
|----|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1  | admin              | Access Denied Admin     |
| 2  | gilzow-editor      | Paul-Editor Gilzow      |
| 3  | gilzow-author      | Paul-Author Gilzow      |
| 4  | gilzow-contributor | Paul-Contributor Gilzow |
| 5  | gilzow-subscriber  | Paul-Subscriber Gilzow  |

```
[!] Default first WordPress username 'admin' is still used
```

```
[+] Finished: Tue Jul 12 08:05:42 2016  
[+] Requests Done: 53  
[+] Memory used: 7.887 MB  
[+] Elapsed time: 00:00:04
```

```
54
55 <body class="archive author author-gilzow-author author-3 group-blog hfeed">
56 <div id="page" class="site">
57   <div class="site-inner">
58     <a class="skip-link screen-reader-text" href="#content">Skip to content</a>
59
60     <header id="masthead" class="site-header" role="banner">
61       <div class="site-header-main">
62         <div class="site-branding">
63
64           <p class="site-title"><a href="http://vagrantpress.dev/" rel="home">
65             <p class="site-description">Just another exploitable WordPress
66           </div><!-- .site-branding -->
67
```

# COUNTER MEASURES

---

## Account enumeration

- ▶ Prevent ?author= redirection
- ▶ Disable account name as author permalink
- ▶ Remove author account from classes

```
39 /**
40 * Removes username from the body class list. Why does wordpress include the user name in the body
41 * class? So you can
42 * add per-user custom classes, but that seems like a very fringe case vs giving hackers all of your
43 * user names.
44 *
45 * @param $aryClasses array of classes to include in the body element
46 * @return array filtered list of classes
47 */
48 add_filter('body_class',function($aryClasses){
49     if(is_author() && in_array('author',$aryClasses)){
50         /**
51          * match all classes of 'author-<username>' but not 'author-id'
52          *
53          * match: author-admin
54          * match: author-gilzowp
55          * NO match: author-5
56          *
57          */
58         $aryUserNames = preg_grep('/^author-(?!\\d+$).+$/', $aryClasses);
59         if(count($aryUserNames) > 0){
60             $aryClasses = array_diff($aryClasses,$aryUserNames);
61         }
62     }
63     return $aryClasses;
64 },100,1);
```

# COUNTER MEASURES

---

## Account enumeration

- ▶ Prevent ?author= redirection
- ▶ Disable account name as author permalink
- ▶ Remove author account from classes
- ▶ Remove default login failure error messages

```
68 /**
69 * Removes the error message indicating an invalid user, or incorrect password for a specific user
70 * @param $objUser WP_User|WP_Error
71 * @return WP_Error|WP_User|null
72 */
73 add_filter('authenticate',function($objUser){
74     if(is_wp_error($objUser)){
75         if(
76             || isset($objUser->errors['incorrect_password'])
77             || isset($objUser->errors['invalid_username'])
78             || isset($objUser->errors['invalid_email']))
79         ){
80             $objUser = null;;
81         }
82     }
83
84     return $objUser;
85 },99,1);
86
87
```

# COUNTER MEASURES

---

## Account enumeration

- ▶ Prevent ?author= redirection
- ▶ Disable account name as author permalink
- ▶ Remove author account from classes
- ▶ Remove default login failure error messages
- ▶ User your school's SSOID system

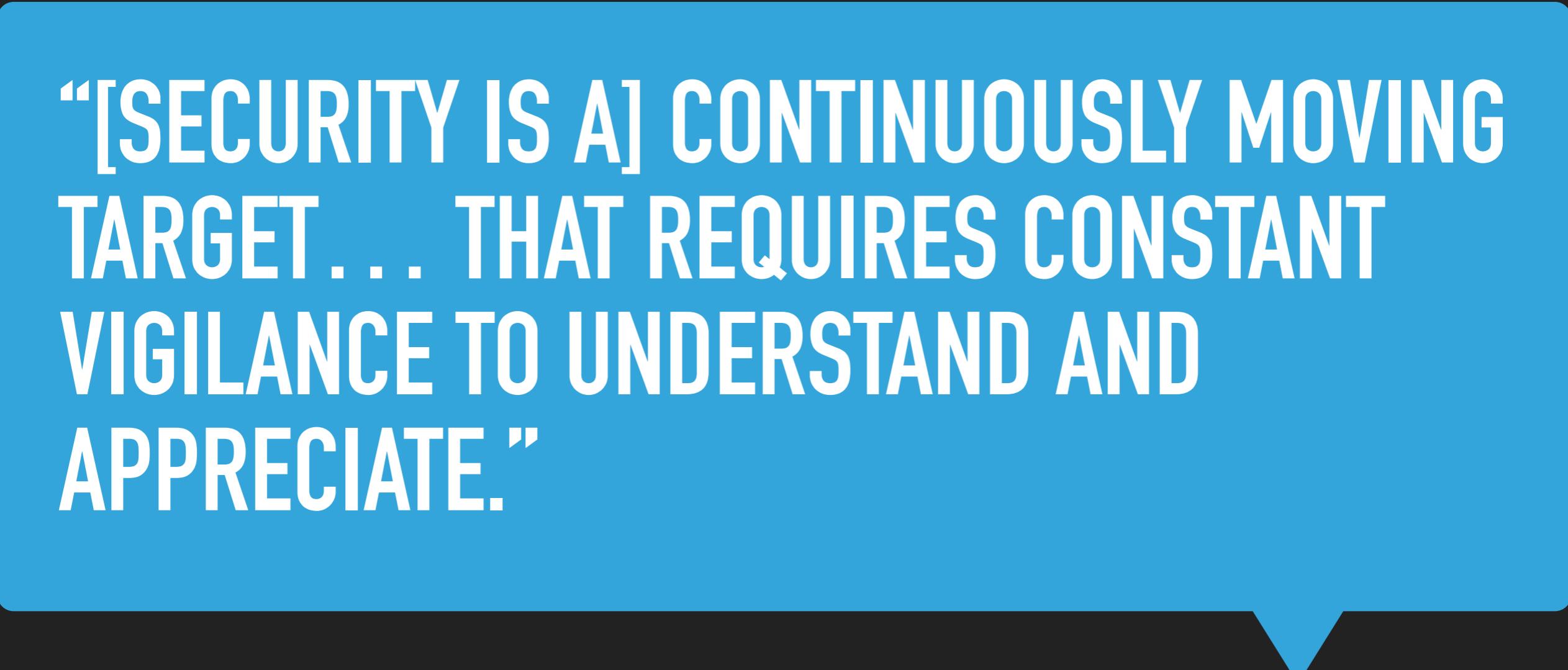
# SUMMARY

---

- ▶ Be paranoid; be skeptical
- ▶ Uninstall plugins/themes that aren't in use
- ▶ Disable php from executing where it shouldn't
- ▶ Limit access to **everything** where you can

---

“[SECURITY IS A] CONTINUOUSLY MOVING TARGET... THAT REQUIRES CONSTANT VIGILANCE TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE.”



Tony Perez, @perezbox

# QUESTIONS?

---

- ▶ Contact
- ▶ [gilzow@missouri.edu](mailto:gilzow@missouri.edu)
- ▶ @gilzow on twitter
- ▶ Files: <https://github.com/gilzow/access-denied/>