Exploration of Public Data Exposure via Google Dorking

Overview

Google Dorking—also known as Google Hacking—is a reconnaissance technique that leverages advanced search operators to identify sensitive or inadvertently exposed information through Google's indexing system. By formulating specific queries, users can uncover various data types, such as internal documents, login interfaces, open directories, or misconfigured web components.

Examples of common dorking operators include:

- filetype:pdf – filters for PDF documents
- intitle:"index of" – searches for open directory listings
- intext:password – scans for occurrences of the word “password” in the body of web pages.

Objective

The objective of this task is to use advanced Google search operators (Google Dorks) to identify publicly exposed files or directories on a target domain—in this case, tesla.com. The intention is to understand potential exposure points and improve awareness around web security configurations.

Approach

1. General File Search

Query : **site:tesla.com filetype:pdf**

Results:

• Model X Owner's Manual (PDF):
https://www.tesla.com/ownersmanual/2015_2020_modelx/nl_be/Owners_Manual.pdf

• Model Y Owner's Manual (PDF):
https://www.tesla.com/ownersmanual/modely/da_dk/Owners_Manual.pdf

2. Open Directory Listings

Query : **intitle:"index of" site:tesla.com**

Result:

• Tesla 10-K SEC Filing (PDF):
https://ir.tesla.com/_flysystem/s3/sec/000156459021004599/tsla-10k_20201231-gen.pdf

3. Confidentiality-Focused Search

Query : **site:tesla.com filetype:pdf intext:confidential**

Result:

• Tesla Proxy Statement (PDF):
https://ir.tesla.com/_flysystem/s3/sec/000110465924059916/tm2413800d3_defa14a-gen.pdf

4. Login Page Exposure

Query : **inurl:login site:tesla.com**

Result:

• Tesla Login Page:
https://www.tesla.com/en_GB/user/login

• SOP Diagram (PDF):
https://service.tesla.com/docs/ModelY/ElectricalReference/prog201/diagram/2023.4_ModelYSOP5.pdf

5. Metadata/Spreadsheet Discovery

Query : **site:tesla.com filetype:xls OR filetype:csv**

Result:

• Tesla Pricebook (CSV format endpoint):
https://www.tesla.com/configurator/pricebook?pricebook=MS_US

6. Document Files Discovery

Query : **site:tesla.com filetype:doc OR filetype:docx**

Result:

• EV Installation Request Form (DOCX):
https://digitalassets.tesla.com/teslacontents/raw/upload/EV_Installation_Apartment_Condo_Request.docx

Summary

Using targeted Google Dorking queries, we identified a number of publicly accessible documents on tesla.com, including owner manuals, financial reports, login pages, and technical documents. Although most of these files appear to be intended for public use, this exercise demonstrates the effectiveness of Google Dorking in uncovering potentially sensitive or improperly indexed data.