



# Intro to Bug Bounties and Recon Basics

Aly Abdulatif

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

01

## Bug Bounty Primer

What is a BBP? Why do these even exist?

02

## Subdomain Enumeration

Get the lay of the land.

03

## Gathering URLs

Find the weak points.

04

## Further Learning

How can I *git gud*?



01

# Bug Bounties

Overview



# What is a Bug Bounty?

Monetary rewards awarded to hackers by a company in exchange for successfully discovering and reporting security vulnerabilities.

What this accomplishes:

- Monetary incentives for hackers to do responsible disclosure.
- Leverage hacker community skills to harden security posture of the organization.



# Why do BBPs exist?

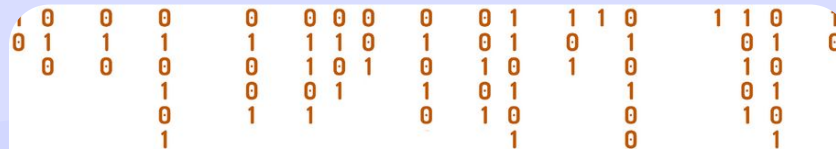


# Starting Point: UT Bug Bounty



Why you should do this:

- Make UT a safer place.
- ISO is very friendly with students.
- Amazing response time.

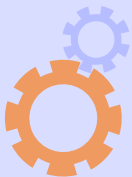


## UT Austin's Bug Bounty

Calling all hackers! Find and report bugs and earn cold hard cash!  
Read the rules, practice your skills, and go down in UT hacking history.

# MAIN SKILLS NEEDED

\*For web BBPs



## Understanding HTTP

Essential to understanding how information flows within a web app.



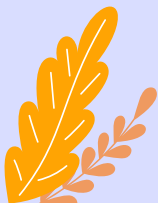
## Using BurpSuite

Very useful in intercepting and manipulating requests.



## >= 1 Web Vuln

Provides context and a clear testing methodology.



# CONCEPTS



## Passive Recon

Venus is the closest planet to the Sun and the smallest one in the Solar System—it's only a bit larger than the Moon



## Active Recon

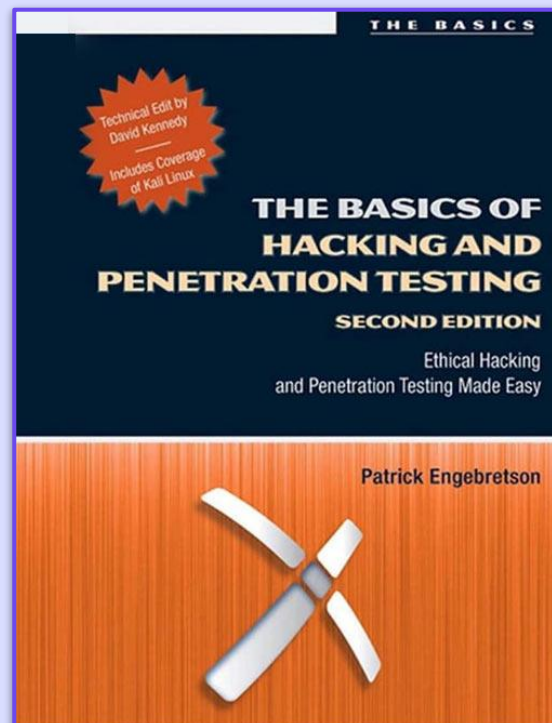
Venus has a beautiful name and is the second planet from the Sun. It's very hot and has a poisonous atmosphere



# Importance of Recon

These points are directly from the book.

- Your chances of success are proportional to time spent on recon.
- Less confined by scope.
- Broadens your Attack Surface.
- Tells you where to focus your efforts.
- **Have a well-thought-out methodology**





“If I had 6 hours to chop down a tree, I’d spend the first four of them sharpening my axe”

—**Abraham Lincoln**



# 02

## Subdomain Enumeration

Passive Recon Part I



# Subdomain Enumeration

A reconnaissance phase which helps you broaden the attack surface, find hidden applications, and forgotten subdomains.



# SubEnum Tool #1:

## sublist3r

- Written in Python.
- Last updated 3 years ago.
- Uses search directives for popular search engines.
- Uses regex to extract results.
- Other sources: ThreatCrowd, VirusTotal, Otx

```
madhusudan@kali:~$ sublist3r -v -d kali.org -t 5 -e bing -o ~/Desktop/subresult.txt

Sublist3r
# Coded By Ahmed Aboul-Ela - @aboul3la

[~] Enumerating subdomains now for kali.org
[~] verbosity is enabled, will show the subdomains results in realtime
[~] Searching now in Bing..
Bing: tools.kali.org
Bing: forums.kali.org
Bing: autopkgtest.kali.org
Bing: http.kali.org
Bing: pkg.kali.org
Bing: status.kali.org
Bing: old.kali.org
Bing: images.kali.org
Bing: archive.kali.org
Bing: docs.kali.org
Bing: security.kali.org
Bing: archive-4.kali.org
Bing: downloads.kali.org
Bing: hebe.kali.org
Bing: archive-3.kali.org
[~] Saving results to file: /home/madhusudan/Desktop/subresult.txt
[~] Total Unique Subdomains Found: 15
archive.kali.org
archive-3.kali.org
archive-4.kali.org
autopkgtest.kali.org
docs.kali.org
downloads.kali.org
forums.kali.org
hebe.kali.org
http.kali.org
images.kali.org
old.kali.org
pkg.kali.org
security.kali.org
status.kali.org
tools.kali.org
madhusudan@kali:~$
```

# SubEnum Tool #2:

## subfinder



- Written in Go
- Optimized for speed.
- Provides a go library for your own scripts.
- Bigger project than sublist3r

```
root@kali:~# subfinder -d hackerone.com -v

  _____
 /  _  _  \  _  /  _  \  _  /  _  \
(  _ \| | | | \| | | \| | | \| | | |
 \  __/ |_|_| |  |_|_| |  |_|_| |  |_|_|
  \___/  \___/  \___/  \___/  \___/  \___/ v2

projectdiscovery.io

[WARN] Use with caution. You are responsible for your actions
[WARN] Developers assume no liability and are not responsible for any misuse or damage.
[WARN] By using subfinder, you also agree to the terms of the APIs used.

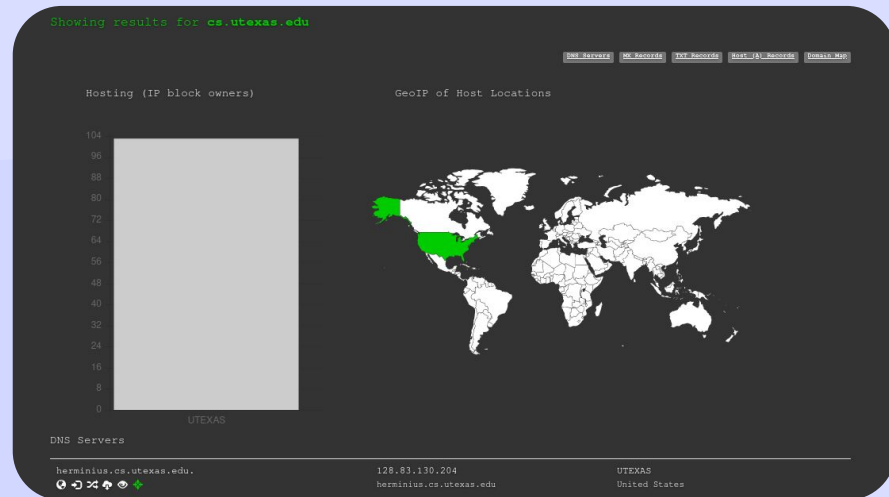
[INF] Enumerating subdomains for hackerone.com
[sitedossier] www.hackerone.com
[virustotal] api.hackerone.com
[virustotal] support.hackerone.com
[virustotal] docs.hackerone.com
[virustotal] mta-sts.hackerone.com
[virustotal] mta-sts.forwarding.hackerone.com
[virustotal] a.ns.hackerone.com
[virustotal] b.ns.hackerone.com
[virustotal] links.hackerone.com
[virustotal] info.hackerone.com
[archiveis] hackerone.com
[securitytrails] email.gh-mail.hackerone.com
[securitytrails] mta-sts.managed.hackerone.com
[securitytrails] web-seo-content-for-business.theflyingkick.websitedesignresource.api.hackerone.com
[passivetotal] cf-ssl5349-protected-cover-photos-user-content.hackerone.com
[passivetotal] o1.email.hackerone.com
[passivetotal] go.hackerone.com
[passivetotal] cf-ssl5349-protected-profile-photos-user-content.hackerone.com
[passivetotal] o3.email.hackerone.com
[passivetotal] profile-photos-user-content.hackerone.com
[passivetotal] cf-ssl41462-protected-profile-photos-user-content.hackerone.com
[passivetotal] cover-photos-user-content.hackerone.com
[passivetotal] staging.hackerone.com
[passivetotal] cf-ssl41462-protected-cover-photos-user-content.hackerone.com
```

# SubEnum Tool #3:

## dnsdumpster



- Banner grabbing.
- Reverse DNS lookups.
- Tries to find other data in DNS records.
- This is scraped in both sublist3r and subfinder.



# 03

## Directory/File Enumeration

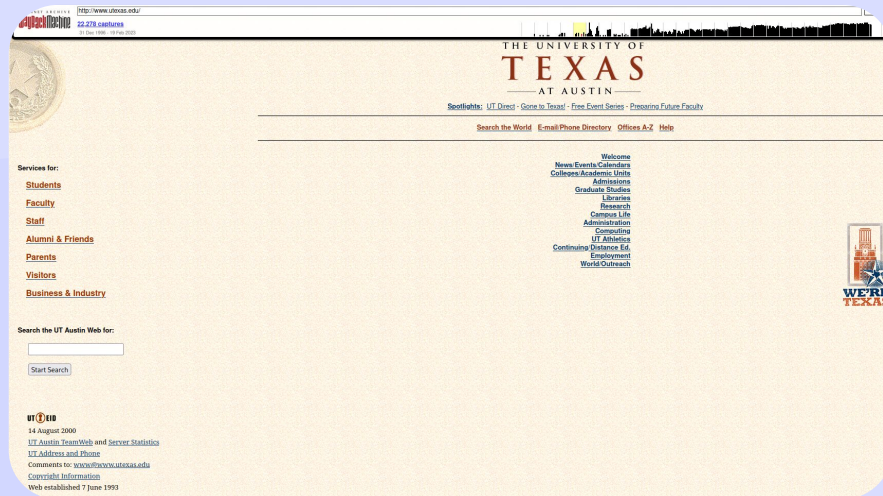
Passive Recon Part II





# DirEnum Tool #1: Wayback Machine

- Initiative by The Internet Archive to document the development of the internet.
- Has an API where you can query with regex.
- Can be used for both DirEnum and SubEnum.

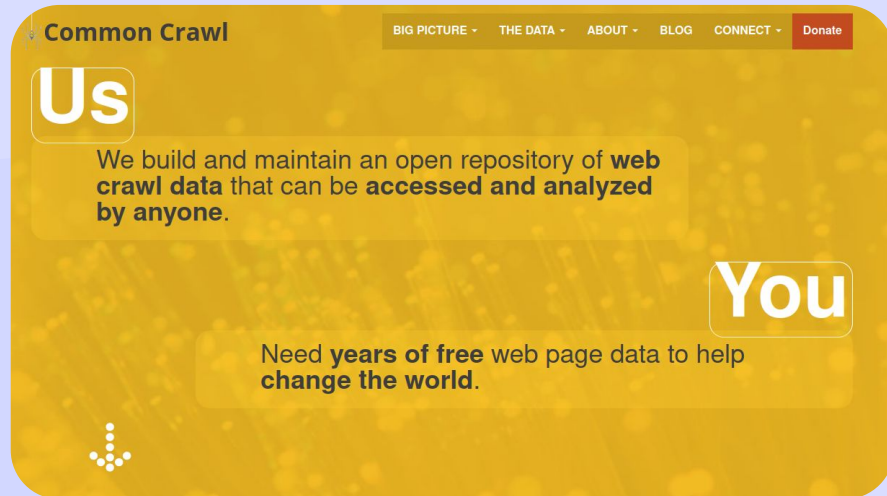


# DirEnum Tool #2:

## CommonCrawl



- Opensource repo of web crawl data.
- Sponsored by Amazon. (Free hosting)
- Outputs a specialized web crawl file type. WARC.
- Provides a python API.

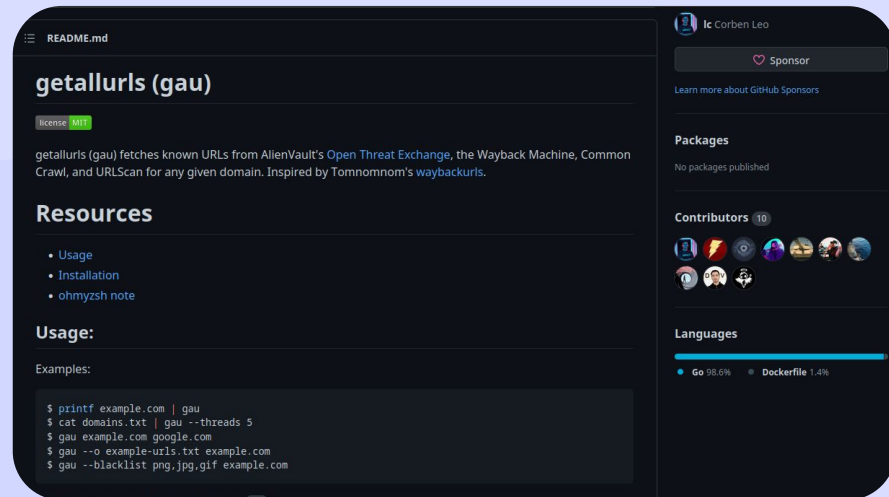


# DirEnum Tool #3:

## gau



- Short for Get All URLs.
- Scrapes Wayback Machine, CommonCrawl, OTX, and URLscan.
- Pretty small project.
- @hacker\_ on twitter



# 04

## Further Learning Resources

Git Gud





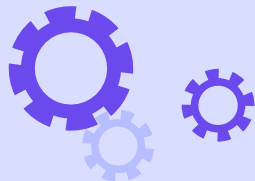
# Good Learning Resources



## Twitter

Follow high-profile hackers and bug hunters.

@Th3g3nt3lman  
@hacker\_  
@NahamSec  
@CristiVlad25



## Udemy

Many good web security focused courses.



## HackerOne Disclosed Reports

Helps learning the methodology of other hackers.



## HackTheBox

The #1 gamified hacking platform in the world.





**HAPPY  
HACKING!**