

Thesis
B.Sc.

Thesis
M.Sc.

Analyzing the Effect of Domain Parking on DNS Based Re- search

Motivation

Domain Parking, for example from GoDaddy [1], is a common mechanism to earn money with unused domains. So called Domain Parking Services offer to host websites on such domains, mostly containing ads to generate revenue for domain owners. Furthermore, many services sell parked domains if profitable offers are available.

Related work has investigated these services from a customer perspective, but also from a client perspective randomly visiting parked domains [2,3]. They found many domain parking services to be unreliable or dubious.

To reduce cost and administration effort, domain parking services host many domains on the same infrastructure with the same set of properties. Depending on their share of managed domains, these services might impact Internet-wide service studies based on domains massively. The goal of this thesis is to analyze this impact, and identify caveats in existing studies and measurement pipelines.

Your Task

- Identify Domain Parking services and their differences
- Analyze the mode of operation of found services
- Identify parked domains in large scale DNS scans
- Analyze the impact of parked domains on further scans (e.g., TLS)

Requirements

- Basic programming knowledge in Python or Go
- Familiarity with GIYF-Based work approaches

Bibliography

- [1] <https://www.godaddy.com/garage/what-is-domain-parking/>
[2] T. Vissers, W. Joosen, and N. Nikiforakis, "Parking Sensors: Analyzing and Detecting Parked Domains," KU Leuven and Stony Brook University, Tech. Rep., 2015.
[3] S. Alrwais, K. Yuan, E. Alowaisheq, Z. Li, and X. Wang, "Understanding the Dark Side of Domain Parking," Indiana University Bloomington, Tech. Rep., 2014.

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