

# **A Study on Ethical Hacking**

**Prof. Milind More**

Asst. Professor

St. Rock's College of Commerce and Science, Borivali (W), Mumbai, India

**Abstract:** *This article examines the ethics of ethical hacking and considers whether there are any issues with this emerging profession. Since ethical hacking has been a contentious topic in recent years, it is still unclear what ethical hackers' genuine motivations are. The report also considers potential research directions that could be investigated to keep ethical hacking ethical.*

**Keywords:** Hackers, automated security, education and training, risk management, and ethical hacking

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

These days, it can be challenging to discern the genuine intents of the general public, and it can be even more challenging to discern the motives of each and every ethical hacker breaking into vulnerable systems or networks. As technology advances, we come across technologies that are useful for the general public, but in the wrong hands, can spark intense debate and violate our fundamental rights to privacy, respect, and free will. The media is always highlighting issues related to cybercrime, and research indicating that almost 90% of attacks take place internally [1] raises questions about how simple it would be for someone working internally to be able to infiltrate attacks.

## **II. DISCUSSION**

### **Training and education**

Course instructors believe they will educate students how to better incursion, despite the fact that educating students to hack is still a very severe problem that we face today. It can be very challenging to ascertain students' genuine motivations, hence there is great disagreement about whether ethical hacking should be employed. Guiding a learner in hacking society will undoubtedly be affected by the fact that he was permitted to learn how to hack in the first place, but we cannot simply point the finger at the course instructors and claim that they were to blame for allowing him to enrol in the course [2]. If that were the case, there would be significant concerns in other areas as well. For instance, when automobiles are built, they are crash tested to fully understand areas that can be improved to provide consumers with a dependable car. If businesses did not test the issues, there would be. If the automobile got in a collision, it would be the manufacturer's fault. With the aid of university teachers, teaching pupils to hack in fact equips them with a comprehensive understanding of how to breach computer systems. They offer an unfathomable menace. Given the current mental state of students, it is simple to foresee the risks they may pose. Some have killed innocent students with guns in the past. Others have started terrorist plans. Now, the university assists in inflicting network damage, basically teaching students "how to do it." Handing a thief a crowbar to break into homes is an example of directly demonstrating the instruments that may be used to commit such crimes. The lecturer is essentially handing them a loaded pistol when utilising this kind of instruction for undergraduate students, which is an issue [3], [4].

Once a student gains new skills, they may use them with good or bad intentions. Certain university policies that need to address issues with students committing criminal acts are not being applied, but these can be fixed by using security checks on people, which Universities do for certain courses such as moral hacking. A few steps, including student interviews, professional certification requirements, and criminal background checks, may help to screen out some, if not all, students who may have ulterior motives [5]. It would be challenging to ascertain the cause of their interest in the course given the variety of training programmes accessible worldwide. It's possible that the person has long been interested in security and that his main goal is to improve his resume in order to secure a better job and a higher wage; it cannot be denied that ethical hackers earn very well. Hacking is ethical to some extent. If these safeguards weren't in place, we would have to manually ensure the security of our systems. If ethical hacking is done correctly, this can protect the security of our systems.

### **Believing in the prospective adversary**

No two people in the world are the same; their appearance, form, size, and even mental states are all unique, and the behaviours of any one person cannot be seen as one would wish in order to solve problems. To ensure that no single individual has complete freedom, two completely separate individuals would need to be employed to do tests for firms. with any single system. The requirement for safe information is vital, and it may play a role in ethical hacking. Concerned individuals would like to learn some facts about themselves or society in general; nevertheless, this knowledge might cause substantial issues over who can access it and who should view it. Hacking is unacceptable for whatever reason, financial or personal. It can be argued that working on large projects with one of the country's largest financial companies to find security flaws and help remedy problems can help to reinforce the knowledge of an ethical hacker and, in the future, out of curiosity or spite, help to reinforce the knowledge of an ethical hacker. He broke his contract and sold his ideas to crooks. It was stated that this is possible and that it is one of the numerous issues that ethical hacking faces. It is considered that both Christians and Muslims think that adultery is sinful and a significant sin. Fundamentally, there is a divide between ethics and religion, but the desire not to do it does not prohibit you from doing it, and you may do it anyhow." ...used to describe how various people's perceptions of good and wrong change based on their religion, society, or upbringing. [6] Hackers have a predisposition to get access to networks while knowing it is unlawful, and for the same religious reasons, they desire to do it for pleasure or other purposes.

With the advancement of technology in business, it is becoming increasingly clear that all of our data will be rendered electronic, and all business transactions will be conducted electronically in order to usher us into the next generation. eBay, for example, is a global auction platform that encourages businesses to sell their items by providing an auction room. The convenience of our own houses. Ethical hackers can and may utilise their expertise to avoid paying for stuff they have brought since they are aware they can. They utilise their authority to "benefit themselves" without being caught, at the expense of others, and might be viewed as ethical hackers on the side, effectively ethical hackers by day and black hats when necessary. Unfortunately, some talented people utilise their talents to harm society, such as discovering and exploiting flaws in company systems, generating and disseminating virus-infected code, and devising methods to avoid paying for desired services... Corruption may be viewed as a key concern in ethical hacking and who we can rely on to complete the job for us. An ethical hacker may accomplish the job successfully, but understanding his genuine objectives may be justified. If the ethical hacker is corrupt, the firm may be corrupt if they deny any mistakes in examined securities. For example, if an EH has provided his report and the company is hacked, the corporation will turn to security.

### **Risk Control**

Ethical hackers are well-paid professionals who have a valid standing and access. They can reduce the risk of effect by clearly defining advantages and defects, assisting top corporate directors in determining if such actions should be done. To reduce the danger, ethical hackers might investigate vulnerabilities beforehand. Penetration testing might be performed to determine whether the firm is vulnerable to attack. Finding vulnerabilities for corporations not only benefits the firm but also reduces the chance of an attack. However, ethical hackers often get five days to complete testing; what happens if vulnerabilities are overlooked? If an ethical hacker fails to produce results to the business and thinks the system is secure and free of flaws, who is accountable for legal action if a malevolent hacker gains access to the system? Surprisingly, IBM has an ethical hacking publication. "... the client may inquire, "So, if I address these problems, I'll have flawless security, right?"

This, unfortunately, is not the case. People use the client's computers and networks, and mistakes are made. The longer it has been since the testing, the less can be said with certainty about the health of a client's security. A section of the final report contains recommendations for activities the client should continue to take to mitigate the effect. If information is inaccurate, there is minimal chance of ethical hacking in the workplace. What colour is the individual's hat if a corporation has been ethically hacked? Is it black or white? Giving people extra access and then having them return with inaccurate information, as Palmer [6] outlines, we may question what the differences are. as opposed to relying on standard security software to perform the work for you. Deeper investigations revealed that appropriately programming systems at the outset would assist to increase security. The biggest problem would be the expense of managing and administering superior solutions. Another concern is who we can enable these upgrades to, the firm or

ethical hackers to develop their expertise and so gain enough information they can get hold of and then launch assaults from different areas of the world as a result. An ethical hacking regime would be established by posing as ethical hackers and obtaining information to exploit. Another way to look at it is whether professional ethical hackers who want to fix security vulnerabilities should be permitted to access sensitive information and break through security barriers. To accomplish the job, we need some freedom and the ability to use specific instruments to assist them with their work. The example of Randal Schwartz, who was jailed for merely doing his job, best shows the necessity to utilise tools without any restrictions. To uncover security flaws, ask questions. Ethical hackers can spot problems, but to what extent? If they see a regular virus eating away at data, they may ignore it or let it go since they only have a limited amount of time to do tests. It is the hacker's purpose to circumvent and fool the network. the ethical hacker may be aware of this and penetrate the network, leaving it until issues develop, posing the issue of "man on the inside," implying that ethical hackers may find it simpler for hackers to infiltrate their assaults.

### **Assisting the adversary**

In this modern age, almost nothing is protected; there is information freedom and it is available to everyone who is hungry enough to seek it. CAPTCHA is a Turing test application that accurately distinguishes between humans and machines, allowing us to better understand and avoid assaults. Making the separation between humans and computers allows us to solve issues and further administrate them, i.e., apprehend the human criminals while computers do their work. There are several tools available to assist ethical hackers in doing their duties properly. It is understandable that several versions of the same tool exist; a few of tools that may be used by the ethical hacker to hack systems include Nmap to locate open ports, which is freely accessible for everyone to download and use, and Akinetic, another commercial programme. programme that tests for web application vulnerabilities but may be obtained unethically by a hacker using cracks published on the internet These tools may be used by both a conventional hacker and an ethical hacker; the hacker utilises them for criminal purposes, while the ethical hacker uses them for the good of the organisation to assist find security problems. Google is an excellent search engine that provides important and occasionally unlawful information. Google raises privacy issues, but genuine persons who know how to access such information by utilising creative queries may utilise Google as a beneficial tool in gathering as much information as possible. Is Google's behaviour ethical? to save such information on a certain person or company?

Obviously, the answer is negative; it allows us to get sensitive information about our targets, which is excellent for the hacker but terrible for the victim. Despite this, Companies must guarantee that no sensitive information is sent across the internet while it is still available. Google may play a significant role in providing useful and occasionally sensitive information. This is a major source of concern for anyone who buy or own web servers containing important information. Google enables for the retrieval of useful information with more inquiry. Consider transporting a pricey item. UPS provides a service that allows you to send a parcel online instead of going to the post office to save time. If a person makes a reservation to send a parcel, UPS will collect the package and deliver it to the specified destination. A would-be hacker may intercept the booking, impersonate the firm, and intercept the shipment. Using sophisticated Google searches, private video cameras are no longer so private; searches reveal that we can acquire information straight through Google, allowing would-be criminals to carry out a perfect crime without even conducting field study. If an ethical hacker was able to monitor the day-to-day operations of a particular gas station, he may as a thief, he or she might quickly determine the hours of business and, more significantly, the amount of time he or she has to conduct the ideal crime, providing them with a precise and exact time frame. The most significant and generally available information is passwords; a search "Index of /" +password.txt," can allow a variety of different passwords to be searched from databases, allowing hackers in general to access a wide range of information. Google in general may be a highly strong tool that greatly aids hackers; however, minimising the problem can be tough since we would require different servers to store information, which can be costly and time demanding. Allowing individuals to engage in such activities aids in increasing knowledge of the opponent, whether they are enemies or not. Because everyone has access to this knowledge, ethical hacking becomes immoral.

**Putting ethical hacking into action**

Now, if we look at this problem at the real-world level rather than just the theoretical playing field, we must carefully evaluate the ethics of allowing ethical hackers into government-grade systems such as police databases or DVLA records, which might make a compelling argument in terms of safety. There is one memorised record that is not Directly related to the penetration tester at the moment can be collected and abused, putting information trust at risk once more. Ethical hackers working in banks would cause another debate since they would have access to sensitive data ranging from student accounts to high-level executives. The urge to steal or memorise one account detail would be enough to help. With so many online frauds being committed these days, tracking down ethical hackers and pinning the blame would be difficult. Having access to accounts will, in effect, blame the ethical hacker even if they did not commit the crime, so in certain environments where fraud is likely, having access to accounts would be beneficial. to occur can actually cause problems. This is an essential debate to have because if an ethical hacker was hired to look for weaknesses in banking systems, then a week later multiple accounts were hacked, who would be to blame? It would almost definitely raise questions. Consider the following scenario: a residential care home with access to administration systems for safety measures. Members of any community, whether they live in private dwellings, massive public structures, or residential care facilities, have the right to privacy. Most flaws are caused by humans rather than by computer mistakes. It may be suggested that computer failure rates can range between 10-15%, allowing a hacker to investigate the system within a particular time period when it fails. One would think that with this arrangement, each resident would be assigned a number, and their daily routines and locations would be immediately accessible via the network, whether the patient is playing cards or taking a shower. No one would be at ease knowing that network admins could readily identify when they were bathing or using the restroom. Could it not be argued that such a system exposes patients in their homes, who are already vulnerable, to possible harm because someone could simply figure out their prescribed routine? It's certainly a possibility.

**The internal issue!**

Understanding Bigwig assaults is a major issue. Chancing the causes for the assaults that do is relatively simple sheer desire for fiscal gain. utmost cases involve disgruntled workers who ask for rises and also commit fraud, utmost frauds allure workers to steal vital information from their company and start their own company, starting their own company with full knowledge of the implicit gains this can be done by stealing, ethical hackers can be presented with a great deal of information that could help, it's also suggested that people within the organisation don't suspect interposers and concentrate the disquisition on outlanders. Bigwig assaults have been the source of several UK swindles during the last decade or two. It's also believed that 28 of fraud is committed by workers and their mates, with 33 now being committed; the rising issue is at the " top." workers believe that if their master can do it, so can they. According to KPMG, 42 of frauds executed are from bigwig attacks, inferring that a bigwig attack contributes to the maturity of assaults that do, with trust and knowledge being the most pivotal aspect from within the establishment that contributes to the attacks.

**III. OVERCOMING THE PROBLEMS**

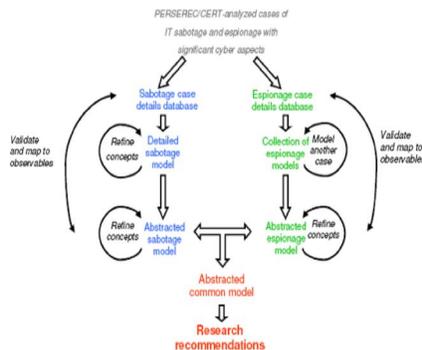
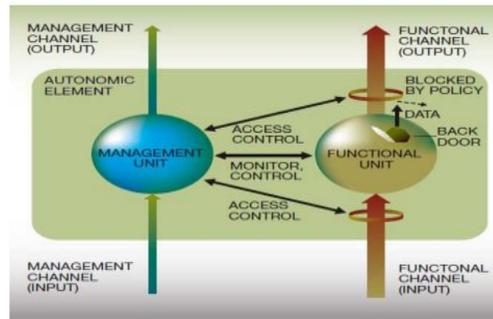


Figure 1 Insider attack analysis

To address issues, researchers are exploring for new approaches to improve ethical hacking and hacking in general from within the firm. To limit the risk of effect, one method is to utilise models to constantly monitor personnel. One alternative is to adopt a model approach, which may be quite beneficial in ethical hacking. This methodology not only assists; it also attempts to mitigate the impact by detecting implications early enough to help reduce the impact of conflict. The model presented in [9] provides insight into the problem and how it might be resolved. To reduce risks and further monitor the behaviour of ethical hackers, as well as to try to eliminate problems as they arise. These models may be applied not just in the workplace, but also in other domains of employment such as education. Another approach may be to automate ethical hacking, which raises significant worries about enabling computers to take over human professions. The main issue here is that robots are prone to make mistakes, errors and can occasionally crash [10]. A strategy that concentrates on a specific assault.



Blockage of back door leak by automatic system

Figure 2 Blockage of backdoor leak by automatic system

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

To summarise, the article reports a large amount of useful material that will generate difficulties in the future and whether the problem should be addressed. Technology has grown at a rapid pace over the years and continues to do so; scholars are placing themselves in jeopardy by assisting persons in hacking. The mind is a pretty complex thing. strong instrument with no control, the control will develop proportionately with the desire to learn something impossible to attain in its entity, but not forgotten in its entity

#### REFERENCES

- [1] A. Durant, "The Enemy Within", Business, pp 48-51, 2007.
- [2] T. Wulf, "Teaching ethics in undergraduate network", Consortium for Computing Sciences in College, Vol 19 Issue 1, 2003.
- [3] Jeffrey Livermore, Walsh College, Member, IEEE Computer Society 2007.
- [4] Logan and Clarkson, Is it Safe? Information Security Education: Are We Teaching a Dangerous Subject? Proceedings of the 8th Colloquium for Information Systems Security Education, West Point, NY, 2004.
- [5] SA. Saleem, Ethical Hacking as a risk management technique, ACM New York, NY, USA, 2006.