

Everything Starts with DNS



At Farsight Security, our mission is to make the internet a safer place.

During a cyber investigation, there is usually a domain or IP address that serves as your starting point. Using Farsight's DNSDBTM – The world's largest real-time and historical DNS Intelligence Database, there are many ways to expose the infrastructure used by cyber criminals.

7 COMMON DNSDB PIVOTS

PIVOT
01

Domain Name -> IP (IPv4 A or IPv6 AAAA)

If you have a Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN) or base domain name, see what IP address it resolves to. You will get information for how that domain name resolves NOW, but you can ALSO see how that name resolved over time.



IP -> Domain name

If you have an IP address, either as starting original "clue" or as output from another pivot or alert, you can resolve the IP to a domain name. Passive DNS tells us a lot more about what's been seen on that IP address than "regular DNS" can.



PIVOT
02

PIVOT
03

IP Address -> Domain names

In some cases, you may find hundreds or even thousands of domains on just a single IP. Sometimes an entity of interest may have been given more than one IP address to use. If you are looking for related domains, it can be helpful to check out the entire encompassing netblock (IPv4 or IPv6). This ability to get domain names associated with an IP address range is a very powerful passive DNS capability.



Domain -> Domain names (wildcard left)

Sometimes you may know a base domain name, but you may not know the hostname/FQDN below that domain name. Look for all other hostnames/FQDNs using a wildcard on the left side.



PIVOT
04

PIVOT
05

Domain -> Nameservers

If you have a domain name, see their current and previous nameservers. Then look to see what other domains also use those nameservers (see pivot 6).



Nameservers -> Domains

Look to see what other domains also use those names servers.



PIVOT
06

PIVOT
07

[hostname].* -> find specified hostname in other TLDs (wildcard right)

You may be interested in seeing if "variant" names exist in other Top Level Domains (TLDs) with the same starting label as a primary domain.



and many more