

Digital forensics

Andrej Brodnik

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Computer

*chapter 15*

- pre-knowledge:
  - architecture of computers
  - basics (BIOS)
  - operating system
  - secondary memory (disc) and its organization
  - file systems

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Startup

- startup steps
- BIOS (*Basic Input Output System*)
  - Open Firmware (Mac PowerPC), EFI (Mac Intel), Open Boot PROM (Sun), ...
- POST (*Power On Self Test*)

- the operating data are stored in xROM
- sometimes the password protects the data – password is entered by the user

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### Startup...

- example *Moussawi*:

The computer has been shut down for a very long time and the battery on the motherboard has been emptied

- how the data is encrypted
  - ASCII, ...
  - Little / big endian
- What happens if you take disc to another computer

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### File format

- at the beginning all files have their unique signatures ([www.garykessler.net/library/file\\_sigs.htm](http://www.garykessler.net/library/file_sigs.htm))
- jpg: *FF D8 FF E0* or *FF D8 FF E3*
- gif: *47 49 46 38 37 61* or *47 49 46 38 39 61*
- doc: *D0 CF 11 E0 A1 B1 1A E1*

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### File format - example

- jpeg encoded exif (*Exchangeable image file format*) file

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Hex
-----
Offset  0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  A  B  C  D  E  F
00000000  FF D8 FF E1 16 B1 45 78 69 66 00 00 4D 4D 00 2A 300px 2Exif MM *
00000010  00 00 00 08 00 08 03 0F 00 02 00 00 00 16 00 00
00000020  01 02 01 10 00 02 00 00 00 1C 00 00 01 C0 01 12
00000030  00 03 00 00 00 01 00 01 00 00 01 1A 00 05 00 00
00000040  00 01 00 00 01 E4 01 18 00 05 00 00 00 01 00 00
00000050  01 02 01 28 00 03 00 00 01 00 02 00 00 02 13
00000060  00 03 00 00 00 01 00 01 00 00 07 69 00 04 00 00
00000070  00 01 00 00 01 F4 00 00 09 24 00 00 00 00 00 00
00000080  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00000090  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000000A0  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000000B0  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000000C0  53 54 4D 41 4E 20 4B 4F 44 41 4B 20 44 58 34 33 33 30
000000D0  41 4E 59 00 4B 4F 44 41 4B 20 44 58 34 33 33 30
000000E0  20 44 49 47 49 54 41 4C 20 43 41 4D 45 52 41 00
000000F0  00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00000100  00 24 82 9A 00 05 00 00 00 01 00 00 03 DA 82 9D
00000110  00 05 00 00 01 00 00 03 E2 88 22 00 03 00 00
00000120  00 01 00 02 00 00 00 00 00 07 00 00 00 04 30 32
00000130  32 30 90 03 00 02 00 00 00 14 00 00 02 EA 90 04 20
  
```

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### File format

- the file can be embedded in another file
  - find the file
  - it can be labeled and copied (*copy-paste*)
  - or use tool **dd**
- this procedure is called *carving*
- other tools:
  - scalpel (<http://www.digitalforensicsolutions.com/Scalpel/>), DataLifter (<http://www.datalifter.com/>)
  - EnCase (<http://www.guidancesoftware.com/forensic.htm>), FTK (Forensic Toolkit, <http://accessdata.com/products/computer-forensics/ftk>), X-Ways (<http://www.x-ways.net/>)

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### Curving

- in the end, we only get content and not metadata from the directory
- The other problem is that the data can be scattered through the disk
  - Adroit (<http://digital-assembly.com/products/adroit-photo-forensics/>)

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### File format - challenge

- Challenge: Embed one file in the another file and publish that on the forum. The other colleagues should find the embedded file and extract it using tools like dd or some other tools motioned it the previous slides.
- Challenge: Divide the file into more pieces and insert each one into another file and post it all in the forum. Let your colleagues reconstruct your distributed pieces.

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### Data storage and hiding

- the I / O units are connected to the computer via:
  - bus (IDE, ATA, SATA; SCSI, firewire)
  - interface (*controller*)
- the interfaces can also be smart
  - SMART (*Self-Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Technology*)
  - keep access statistics and other similar data
  - usually are not relevant for forensic research

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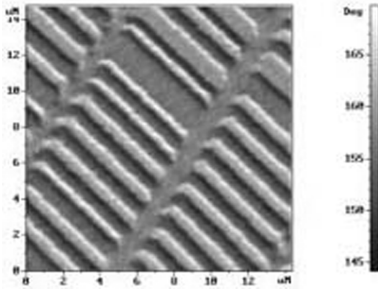
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### Data storage and hiding

- usually we store data permanently on a disk
- What does the hard drive look like?



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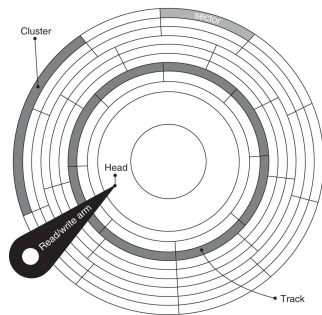
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### Data storage and hiding

- how is the disk organized?
  - spindle, platter, cylinders, tracks, sectors, cluster
- at the first sector are control data (MBR, *master boot record*)
  - size (geometry), blocks, partitions, ...
- what organization in SSD looks like?



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### Data storage and hiding

- Challenge: find the anadisk tool and see what it knows and can do.
- Challenge: what is the MBR structure? Build your MBR and post it in the forum..

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### Data storage and hiding

- look at the Windows 95 boot sector with the Norton Disk Utils tool



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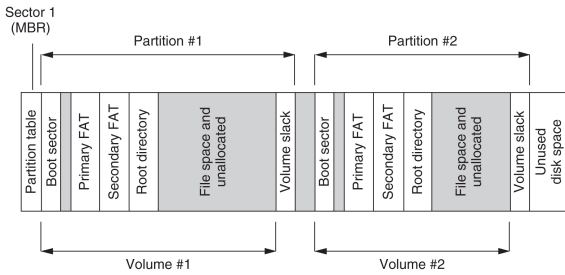
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### Data storage and hiding

- simplified organization of the disk with the FAT file system



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### Data storage and hiding

- when file is deleted, data does not disappear
- even when we format the disk, the data does not disappear
  - take a look at the tool **fdisk**
- the result of both operations is correct file system and a cluster of empty blocks
- tools: **sleuthkit** (<http://www.sleuthkit.org/>), Norton DiskEdit, ...

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### Data storage and hiding

- An example of the reconstruction of files on a freshly formatted disk with the EnCase tool

<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	readmeen.txt	01/04/04 11:19:02AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	readmefr.txt	01/04/04 11:18:56AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	src.zip	01/04/04 11:18:44AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	hxddef100.ini	12/31/03 10:17:36AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	hxddef100.2.ini	12/31/03 10:17:14AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	bdc1100.exe	12/31/03 10:16:02AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	rdbs100.exe	12/31/03 10:15:50AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	9	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	hxddef100.exe	12/31/03 10:15:34AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	src.zip:Zone.Identifier	
<input type="checkbox"/>	11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	hxddef100.ini:Zone.Identifier	
<input type="checkbox"/>	12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	readmecz.txt:Zone.Identifier	
<input type="checkbox"/>	13	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	hxddef100.exe:Zone.Identifier	
<input type="checkbox"/>	14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	readmeen.txt:Zone.Identifier	
<input type="checkbox"/>	15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	hxddef100.2.ini:Zone.Identifier	

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### Data storage and hiding

- Challenge: See what the MBR and boot sector on your computer looks like with an appropriate tool. Report about this on the forum.
- Challenge: Check the configuration of your drive.

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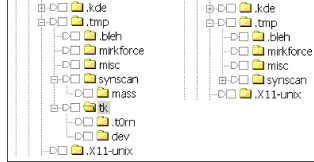
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### Data storage and hiding

- hiding partitions
  - tool Test Disk (<http://www.cgsecurity.org/>)
- at file level
  - hiding files: e.g. MS Windows: *attrib +H in dir/AH*
  - parliament.jpg -> test.exe
  - picture in .ppt pres.
- the latest tools



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### Passwords and encryption

- tools for breaking and searching passwords
  - Password Recovery Tool – PRTK in Distributed Network Attack – DNA (<http://accessdata.com/products/computer-forensics/decryption>)
  - John the Ripper ([www.openwall.com/john/](http://www.openwall.com/john/))
  - Cain and Abel ([www.oxid.it/cain.html](http://www.oxid.it/cain.html))
  - Advanced Archive Password Recovery ([www.elcomsoft.com/azpr.html](http://www.elcomsoft.com/azpr.html))

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### Passwords and encryption

- more about encryption and cryptography later
- some examples
  - tools caesar, rot13
  - support for the PGP
  - tool crypt

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### OS Windows

chapter 17

- file systems
- data recovery
- notes (log files)
- register
- communication trails

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### OS Windows –file system

- two basic file systems FAT (*File Allocation Table*) in NTFS (*New Technology File System*)
- FAT
  - developed first for hard disks (floppy disks)
  - FAT12, FAT16, FAT32

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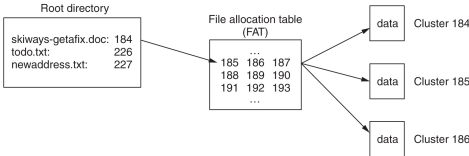
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### File system FAT



- FATxx is a list of index clusters in which each file is stored
- xx means the number of bits used for the index
- $12 = 2^{12} = 4096$ ,  $16 = 2^{16} = 65,536$ ,  $32 = 2^{32} = 268,435,456$

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### File system NTFS

- a more modern file system
  - everything is in files
  - the file information is stored in the system file \$MFT
  - directory is only a file (B tree structure)
  - is journal and stores transactions over a file in the system file \$LogFile
- supports multiple file functionality
  - ACL (Access Control List)
- better protected, since it stores copies of file system data in multiple locations (\$MFTMirr)

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### File system NTFS

File Record	Filename	Description
0	\$MFT	Master File Table
1	\$MFTMirr	A backup copy of the first 4 records of the MFT
2	\$LogFile	Log File for CHKDSK
3	\$Volume	Volume Name, Serial Number etc...
4	\$AttrDef	Definitions of every Attribute
5	.(dot)	Root directory of the disk
6	\$Bitmap	Map of used and unused clusters
7	\$Boot	Boot record of the volume
8	\$BadClus	List of bad clusters on the partition
9	\$Secure	Security Descriptors for each file
10	\$UpCase	Table of uppercase characters used for conversion
11	\$Extend	Directory for the last four Metafiles.
12-23	UNUSED	Marked in use, or not in use, but empty.
Any	\$ObjId	Unique Object IDs given to every file
Any	\$Quota	Disk space usage quota information
Any	\$Reparse	Reparse point information
Any	\$UsnJrnl	NTFS USN Journal (for encryption)

Table 3.1.1 - NTFS 3.0+ Metafiles

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### File system NTFS

- Challenge: look for journals in your NTFS journals that are empty (unused) and then look at their content.

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### NTFS - search for data

- In one directory we can have multiple files with the same name

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### File system NTFS

- Challenge: Which Clusters Compose Your File?
- Challenge: Find a busy but unused part of your file (on which clusters) and what's in it.
- Challenge: What happens if we make 1000 files, then we delete 1000 and work on it?

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### Time coding for files

- FAT: 1.1.1980 + LLLLLLLL MMMDDDDD hhhhhmmm mmmsssss

Volume	File	Preview	Details	Gallery	Calendar	Legend	Sync										
Offset	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F	
00002600	53 41 4C 45 53 20 20 20	20 20 20 28 00 00 00 00	SALES	(													
00002610	00 00 00 00 00 00 9A 7C	8D 2E 00 00 00 00 00 00	Bl x . d o	8c													
00002620	42 69 00 78 00 2E 00 64	00 6F 00 0F 00 F1 63 00	-----	yyyyyyyy	yyyy												
00002630	00 00 FF FF FF FF FF FF	FF 00 00 FF FF FF FF	s k i w a	By													
00002640	01 73 00 6B 00 69 00 77	00 61 00 0F 00 F1 79 00	s - g e t	a f													
00002650	73 00 2D 00 67 00 65 00	74 00 00 00 61 00 66 00	SKIWATIDOC	d													
00002660	53 4B 49 57 41 59 7E 31	44 4E 43 20 00 0A 00 64	-----	-----	T												
00002670	AD 2E AD 2E 00 00 45 5F	AD 2E B9 00 00 54 00 00	At o d o .	't													
00002680	41 74 00 6F 00 64 00 6F	00 2E 00 0F 00 B3 74 00	x t	yyyy	yyyy												
00002690	78 00 74 00 00 00 FF FF	FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF	TUDO	ITX	>d												
000026A0	54 4E 44 4E 20 20 20 54	58	-----	e - a	z												
000026B0	AD 2E AD 2E 00 00 18 65	AD 2E	Bt	yyyyyy	!yy												
000026C0	42 74 00 00 00 FF FF FF	FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF	yyyyyyyyyyyy	yyyy													
000026D0	FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF	FF FF 00 00 FF FF FF FF	n e w a d	!d													
000026E0	01 6E 00 65 00 77 00 61	00 64 00 0E 00 9C 64 00	r e s s	t s													
000026F0	72 00 65 00 73 00 73 00	2E 00 00 00 74 00 78 00	NEWADD-1TXT	!He													
00002700	4E 45 57 41 44 44 7E 31	54 58 54 20 00 85 48 65															

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### Time coding for files

- FILETIME
- 64 bit record
  - value = 1.1.1600 + number \* 100ns



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### NTFS - tracks files

- various operations have a different impact on the recorded times in the directory (creation - CR, last access - LA, last change - LC, record changed (NTFS) - RC):
  - moving the file into a directory: it does not affect anything
  - moving the file to another directory: CR, LA, RC
  - copy file (target file): CR, LA, RC
  - copy/paste: LA(\*)
  - drag&drop: LA(\*)
  - delete: LA, RC
- special features:
  - file on a stick, can be via scp/...: CR > LC
  - when deleting a directory, file information does not change

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### NTFS - tracks files ...

- the content of office files contains metadata from the directory
  - *Save as: if an existing file is picked, the data in the file is overwritten and no new file is created in the directory*
- printing first copies the file to a special directory and then prints it
  - C:\Windows\Spool\Printers, C:\WinNT\System32\Spool\Printers
  - even when we print online content, etc.

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### NTFS - tracks files ...

- Challenge: Find a file that has a creation time greater than the time of the last change.
- Challenge: What can you say, is there such a file on the system that has the last access time same as he time of the creation?
- Challenge: What is the EMF printing method ? What is stored in the print file (spooler)?

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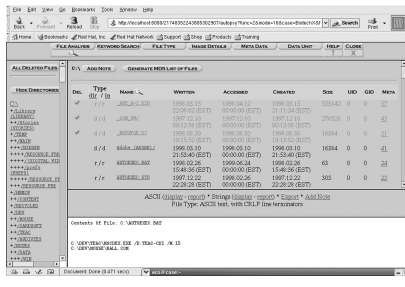
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### Data recovery

- recover deleted files
  - various tools that can run on WinOS

- SleuthKit combined with Autopsy Browser can even browse through the browser (<http://www.sleuthkit.org/autopsy/>)




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### Data recovery ...

- Challenge: install sleuthkit and Autopsy Browser and find the lost files.

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Log files

- Challenge: check the format of the evt file and check what is in them and when did you logged in to the system.

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Register

- In Windows OS, the process environment variables are defined in the registers
- actually, the data is stored in the files (hives) in the system directory `%systemroot%\system32\config`
  - `ntuser.dat` for each user account
- files can be viewed with the Windows tool `regedt32` (EnCase, FTK, ...)

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Register

- Challenge: examine the forensic value of the data in the registry.

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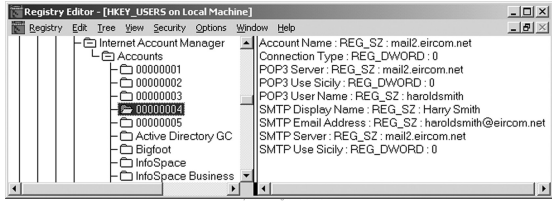
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### Network tracking

- sometimes from the system environment
  - when connecting, ...
- mostly comes directly from application
  - browsers, mail agents, ...




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### Network Tracking - Browsers

- history:
  - firefox-3 is storing history in the sqlite databases *Places.sqlite*
  - Internet Explorer stores history in the file *index.dat*
  - tools that are available to search through these databases: *Odessa* ([www.odessa.sourceforge.net](http://www.odessa.sourceforge.net))
- local cache
- cookies

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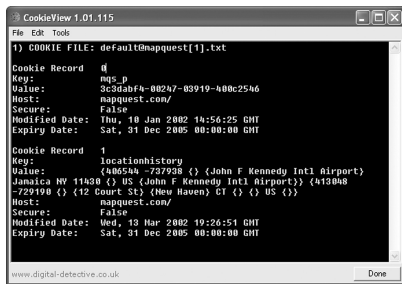
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### Browsers - Cookies

- example of cookies inspection in CookieView ([www.digitaldetective.co.uk](http://www.digitaldetective.co.uk))




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## Browsers

- *Challenge: Find out what leftovers you do have in your cache and check with your browsing history.*
- *Challenge: Get a file from your friend's browser history and disassemble it.*
- *Challenge: Check out what kind of traces are left behind by the IE browser, what kind by the Mozilla and what kind by the Opera.*

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## E-mail

- Traces depend on the mail agent we use
  - sent and received mails
  - summary of IMAP mailbox
- content that is interesting
  - text mails only
  - attachments (!) – MIME format

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## Other programs

- different programs leave different traces
- network software
  - access to other systems
  - allow other systems to access in our system
- system programs leave traces in the registry

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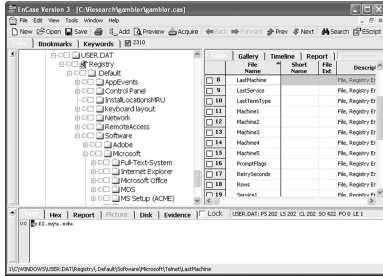
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## Network access tracking

- telnet access to acf2.nyu.edu



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