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

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

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

File format

- at the beginning all files have their unique signatures (www.garykessler.net/library/file_sigs.html)
- 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

File format - example

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

file2																	
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00000190	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	
000001A0	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	
000001B0	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	45	41	EA
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000001E0	20	44	49	47	49	54	41	4C	20	43	41	4D	45	52	41	00	DIGITAL CAMERA
000001F0	00	00	00	E6	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	E6	00	00	00	01	æ æ
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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 (<u>http://www.digitalforensicssolutions.com/Scalpel/</u>), DataLifter (<u>http://www.datalifter.com/</u>)
 - EnCase (<u>http://www.guidancesoftware.com/forensic.htm</u>), FTK (Forensic Toolkit, <u>http://accessdata.com/products/computer-forensics/ftk</u>), X-Ways (<u>http://www.x-ways.net/</u>)

Curving

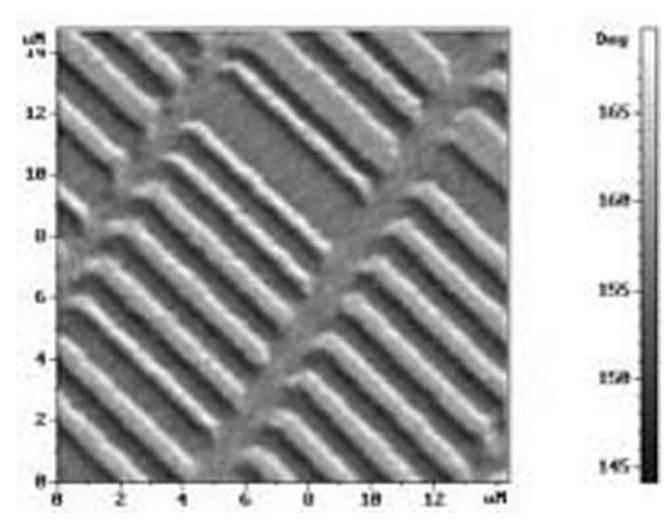
- in the end, we only get content and not metadata from the directory
- The other problem is that the data can be scattered through the disk
 - Adroit (<u>http://digital-assembly.com/products/adroit-photo-forensics/</u>)

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.

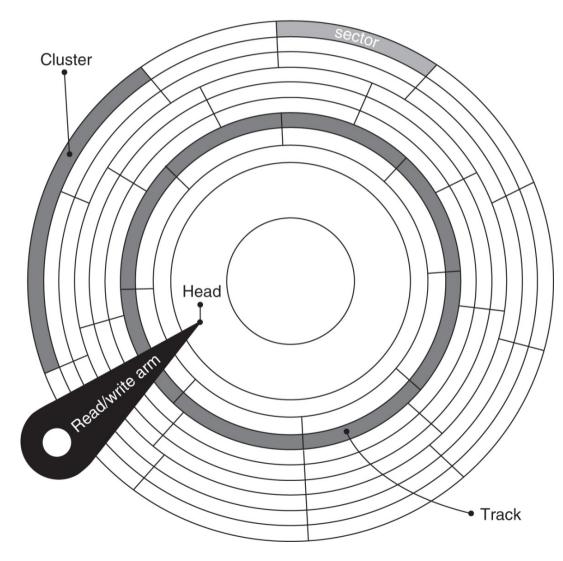
- the I / O units are connected to the computer via:
 - bas (IDE, ATA, SATA; SCSI, firewire)
 - interface (*controller*)
- the interfaces can also be smart
 - SMART (Self-Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Technology)
 - keep access statistics and other similar data
 - usually are not relevant for forensic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

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



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- 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?



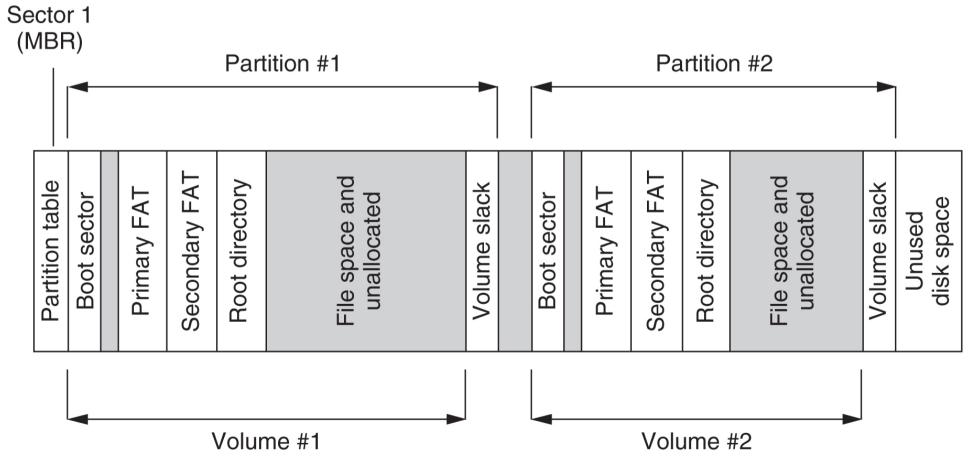
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- Challenge: find the anadisk tool and see what it knows and can do.
- Challenge: what is the MBR structure? Build your MBR and post it in the forum..

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

MS-DOS Prompt - DISKEDIT		_ 8 ×
10 x 18 🖳 🛄 🛅 🔂 🔛 🗗 🗛		
Disk"	Editor	
Object Edit Link View Info Tool		
Description	Boot Record Data	DOS Reports
Sector 0		
	MSWIN4.1	510
Bytes per sector: Sectors per cluster:		512 64
Reserved sectors at beginning:		1
FAT Copies:		1 2
Root directory entries:		512
Total sectors on disk:		
Media descriptor byte:		4.70
Sectors per FAT:		172
Sectors per track: Sides:		
Special hidden sectors:		
Big total number of sectors:		
Physical drive number:	128	
Extended Boot Record Signature:	29 Hex	
Volume Serial Number:	41361CD1 Hex	
Volume_Label:		
File System ID:	FHT16	
Boot Record		Sector Ø
Drive C:		Offset 3, hex 3
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		

• simplified organization of the disk with the FAT file system



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- partition, volume, sector
- inside the file system
- can also be without the file system

- hiding data due to internal and external fragmentation:
 - hiding within a cluster
 - hiding within the partition (partitions usually begin at the beginning of the trace)
 - hiding partition
- partition encryption
- service data: DCO (Drive/device configuration overlay) and HPA (Host/hidden protected area) –

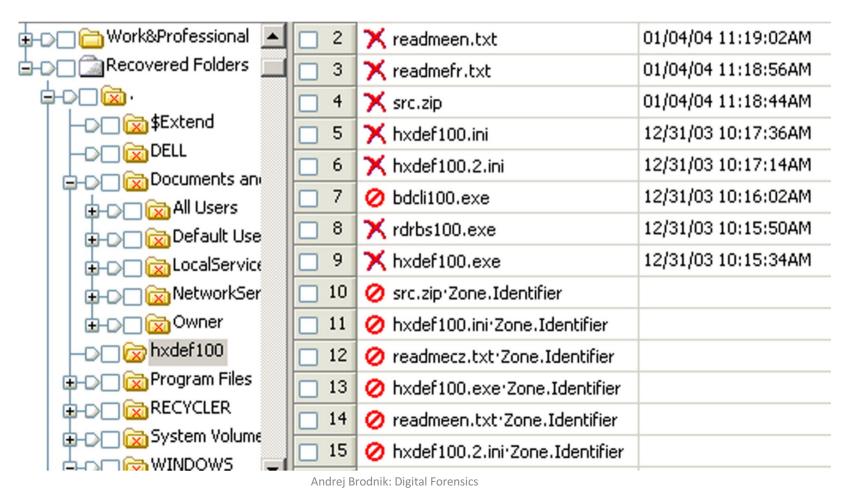
http://www.forensicswiki.org/wiki/DCO_and_HPA

• the virus is hidden in the empty partition volume (volume slack)

EnCase Forensic Edit	ion				-0									
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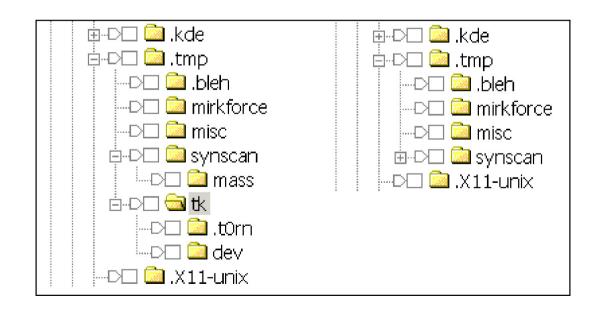
- when file is deleted, data does not disappear
- even when we format the disk, the data does not disappear
 - take a look at the tool**fdisk**
- the result of both operations is correct file system and a cluster of empty blocks
- tools: **sleuthkit** (<u>http://www.sleuthkit.org/</u>), Norton DiskEdit, ...

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



- 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.

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



Passwords and encryption

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

Passwords and encryption

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

OS Windows

chapter 17

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

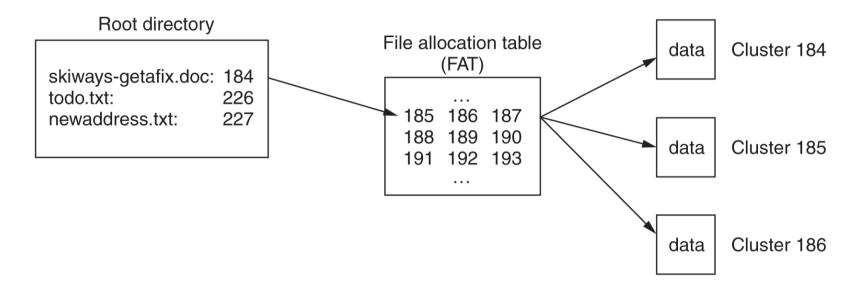
OS Windows –file system

• 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





- FATxx is a list of index clusters in which each file is stored
- xx means the number of bits used for the index
- $12 = 2^{12} = 4096$, $16 = 2^{16} = 65.536$, $32 = 2^{28} = 268.435.456$

File system FAT

hunter-floppy									
V.									
Name	Туре	YSize	🕆 Created 🔺		Modified		Accessed	Attr.	1st sector
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🗆 💼 april		0.5 KB	05/08/2003	14:41:44	05/08/2003	14:41:44	05/08/2003		188
🗆 🕐 greenfield.do	do	19.5 KB	05/08/2003	14:43:00	05/08/2003	14:34:16	05/12/2003	A	306
🗆 📄 contacts.xls	xls	16.5 KB	05/08/2003	14:43:15	02/18/2001	12:49:16	05/12/2003	RA	345
🗆 📄 skiways-getafix.doc	doc	21.0 KB	05/13/2003	12:32:00	05/13/2003	11:58:10	05/13/2003	A	215
🗆 📄 todo.txt	txt	122 B	05/13/2003	12:37:54	05/13/2003	12:40:48	05/13/2003	A	257
🗆 📄 newaddress.txt	txt	122 B	05/13/2003	12:42:17	05/13/2003	12:42:18	05/13/2003	A	258
Boot sector		0.5 KB							0
🗆 🦳 FAT 1		4.5 KB							1
🗆 🦲 FAT 2		4.5 KB							10
🗆 📄 Free space		1.4 MB							
🗆 📄 Idle space									

- view the root of the file system on the hard disk using the X-Ways program
- keeps the creation time and last changes but only the last access date

FAT

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File system FAT

• Challenge: See for yourself what the FAT looks like on your disk. Look in particular for those clusters that are empty - they are not part of any file system.

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)

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

File system NTFS

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

NTFS - \$MFT

- example of one record in \$MFT
- the record consists of attributes, the record is the size of the 1kB
- if the file is small, it is stored in the record
- when the flag is deleted, then the record is reused

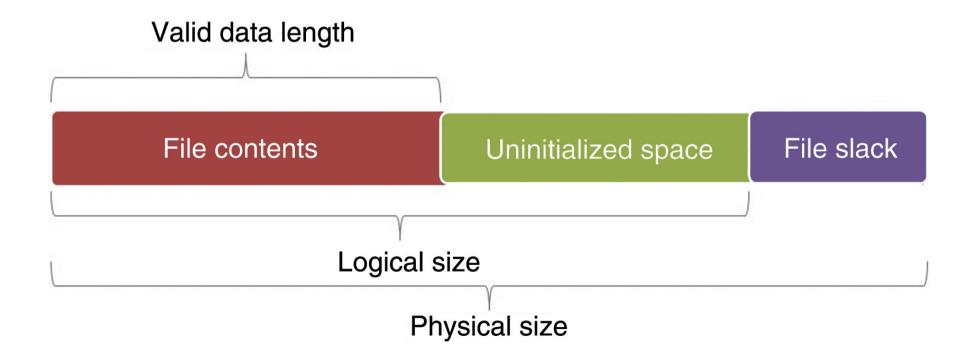
Pointed to by file: E:\/review.pgd File Type: data MD5 of content: 19d3508b078a10b3852b75f46ef9be5a SHA-1 of content: 3229c020dcbd2c38ba44c462c1970cbc13db473b Details: MFT Entry Header Values: Entry: 29 Sequence: 1 \$LogFile Sequence Number: 16842551 Allocated File Links: 1 **\$STANDARD INFORMATION Attribute Values:** Flags: Archive

Owner ID: 0 Security ID: 260 Created: Tue Mar 6 21:24:51 2007 File Modified: Wed Mar 7 19:16:13 2007 MFT Modified: Wed Mar 7 19:16:13 2007 Accessed: Wed Mar 7 19:16:13 2007

\$FILE_NAME Attribute Values: Flags: Archive Name: review.pgd Parent MFT Entry: 5 Sequence: 5 Allocated Size: 0 Actual Size: 0 Created: Tue Mar 6 21:24:51 2007 File Modified: Tue Mar 6 21:24:51 2007 MFT Modified: Tue Mar 6 21:24:51 2007

NTFS - search for data

• there is a physical file size (cluster), logical size (directory entry) and the end of the file (EOF)



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NTFS – MFT record

• MFT record and the difference between sizes

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Andrej Brodnik: Digital Forensics

NTFS - search for data

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

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?

Time coding for files

• FAT: 1.1.1980 + LLLLLLM MMMDDDDD hhhhhmmm mmmsssss

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Offset		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	В	С	D	E	F	$\overline{}$			
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Time coding for files

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

DCode Date v2.06.002 written by Craig Wilson									
will add the		GMT -05:00 Vindow on top Windows: 64 bit Hex Value - Little Endian	•						
	Value to Decode:	906B39AD7DEEC301							
	Date & Time:	Sun, 08 February 2004 14:56:44 -0500	Ð						
www.digital-detective.co.uk Cancel Clear Decode									

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

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.

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 at he time of the creation?
- Challenge: What is the EMF printing method ? What is stored in the print file (spooler)?

Data recovery

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

<u>File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Window H</u>elp

 SleuthKit combined with Autopsy Browser can even browse through the browser (<u>http://www.sle</u> <u>uthkit.org/autop</u> <u>sy/</u>)

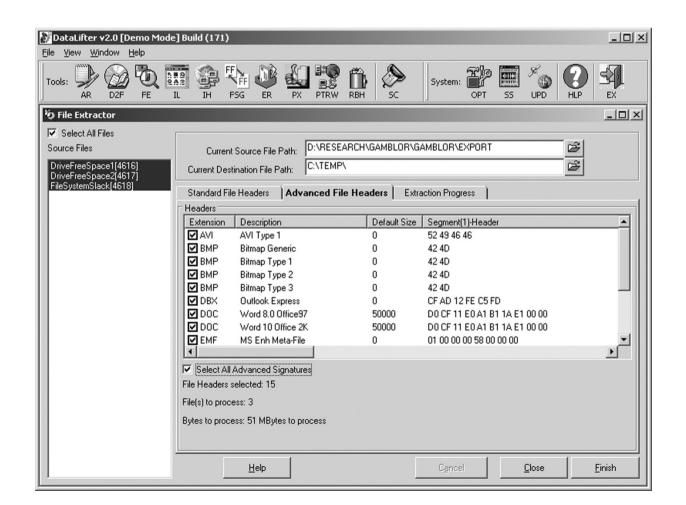
File		SIS KEYWO	RD SEARCH FILL	E TYPE IMAGE DET	AILS META DATA	DATA UNIT	HELP ?	CLOSE		
ALL DELETED FILES	C:\	ADD NOTE	GENERATE ME	05 LIST OF FILES						
HIDE DIRECTORIES	DEL	Type <u>dir</u> / <u>in</u>		WRITTEN	Accessed	CREATED	SIZE	UID	GID	Мета
<u>/Library</u>	~	r/r	<u>_APE_A~1.DIR</u>	1998.03.15 22:08:02 (EST)	1998.04.12 00:00:00 (EST)	1998.03.15 21:11:24 (EST)	553142	0	0	<u>57</u>
LIBRARY) + <u>/Stories</u> STORIES)	~	d/d	<u>_COM_SW/</u>	1997.12.10 00:12:58 (EST)	1997.12.10 00:00:00 (EST)	1997.12.10 00:12:58 (EST)	278528	0	0	<u>45</u>
/TEMP +/MAIN	~	d/d	<u>_MSSTFQF.T/</u>	1998.08.30 19:15:52 (EST)	1998.08.30 00:00:00 (EST)	1998.08.30 19:15:52 (EST)	16384	0	0	<u>21</u>
++ <u>/HIDDEN</u> +++ <u>/RESOURCE.FRK</u>		d/d	<u>Adobe (ADOBE)/</u>	1998.03.10 21:53:40 (EST)	1998.03.10 00:00:00 (EST)	1998.03.10 21:53:40 (EST)	16384	0	0	<u>41</u>
+++ <u>/!DIGITAL.VID</u> +++ <u>/prefs</u> REFS)		r/r	AUTOEXEC. BAT	1998.02.26 15:48:36 (EST)	1999.06.24 00:00:00 (EST)	1998.02.26 15:48:36 (EST)	63	0	0	<u>24</u>
++++/ <u>RESOURCE.FF</u> ++ <u>/RESOURCE.FRK</u>		r/r	AUTOEXEC. SYD	1997.12.22 22:28:28 (EST)	1998.02.26 00:00:00 (EST)	1997.12.22 22:28:28 (EST)	303	0	0	<u>22</u>
/HIMCEW F/CONTENT /RECYCLED /DEV			ASCII	(<u>display</u> - <u>report</u>) * St File Type: ASCII	t <mark>rings (<u>display</u> - <u>rep</u> text, with CRLF li</mark>		Note			
- <u>/MOUSE</u> - <u>/CARDSOFT</u> - <u>/TEAC</u>	Conte	nts Of File	e: C:\AUTOEXEC.BAT	2						
AUDIOTES	C:\DEV\TEAC\MSCDEX.EXE /D:TEAC-CDI /M:15 C:\DEV\MOUSE\BALL.COM									

Data recovery ...

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

Data recovery ...

- searching for lost files from a large unformed mound
 - same as curving files
- tool DataLifter: looks for a lost file from two empty spaces and one of the rest of the file system



Data recovery ...

- if a small file overwrites larger one, we can reconstruct most of the larger files
- enCase:

 an example
 of a
 shopping
 cart in the
 CD Universe,
 found in the
 rest of the
 file space

📲 EnCase Forensic Edition										
File Edit View Tools Help										
🖆 New 😅 Open 🔚 Save 🍓 Print 🍇 Add Device 🔍 Search 🔤 Refresh										
X 🕩 🖄 Cases 💡 Keywords 🔍 Sea 🔲 Table 🔛 Gallery 🛄 Timeline 📋 Report										
	Name	File Last A								
	□ 212 Ø _C289.FLT (02/03/97 08:22:36PM 02/20/96 12:00:00A								
	213 Ø_C29.8BF	02/03/97 08:28:30PM 12/18/95 03:35:18A								
	214 Ø _C290.FLT	02/03/97 08:22:36PM 02/20/96 12:00:00A								
		02/03/97 08:22:36PM 02/20/96 12:00:00A								
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Log files

- the operating system (depending on the settings) records
 - access to resources
 - appearance and deletion of resources,
 - errors, etc.
- saved on %systemroot%\system32\config (c:\winnt\...)
 - different notes in different files: *Appevent.evt, Secevent.evt, Sysevent.evt*

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.

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, ...)

Register

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

Network tracking

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

🛅 Registry Edi	litor - [HKEY_USERS on Local Machine]	
Registry Ec	<u>Edit Tree View Security Options Window H</u> elp	_ 8 ×
	 Internet Account Manager Account Name : REG_SZ : I Connection Type : REG_DV POP3 Server : REG_SZ : m POP3 Use Sicily : REG_DV POP3 User Name : REG_S SMTP Display Name : REG_S SMTP Display Name : REG SMTP Server : REG_SZ : m SMTP Server : REG_SZ : m SMTP Use Sicily : REG_DV 	WORD : 0 ail2.eircom.net VORD : 0 SZ : haroldsmith G_SZ : Harry Smith G_SZ : haroldsmith@eircom.net nail2.eircom.net

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: Oddesa (www.odessa.sourceforge.net)
- local cache
- cookies

Browsers - Cookies

 example of cookies inspection in CookieView (www.digitaldetective.co.uk)

File Edit Tools	
1) COOKIE FILE	: default@mapquest[1].txt
	d
Cookie Record	
Key:	MQS_P
Value:	3c3dabf4-00247-03919-400c2546
Host: Secure:	
	Thu, 10 Jan 2002 14:56:25 GMT
	Sat, 31 Dec 2005 00:00:00 GMT
cybrig pace.	Sac, 51 Dec 2005 00:00:00 dill
Cookie Record	1
	locationhistory
Value:	
	30 {} US {John F Kennedy Intl Airport}} {413048
	Court St} {New Haven} CT {} {} US {}}
Host:	mapquest.com/
Secure:	False
Modified Date:	Wed, 13 Mar 2002 19:26:51 GMT
Expiry Date:	Sat, 31 Dec 2005 00:00:00 GMT

www.digital-detective.co.uk

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.

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

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

Network access tracking

• telnet access to acf2.nyu.edu

🚔 EnCase Version 3 - [C:\Research\gamblor\gamblor.cas]										
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		10	LastTermType			File, Registry Er				
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B-D□ □ RemoteAccess B-D□ □ Software		13	Machine3			File, Registry Er				
		14	Machine4			File, Registry Er				
			Machine5			File, Registry Er				
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