

# **Digital Forensic and Investigation**

Course Code: 5207

**Submitted By**

Adri Saha

Department of CSE

ID: M240105050

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## Introduction

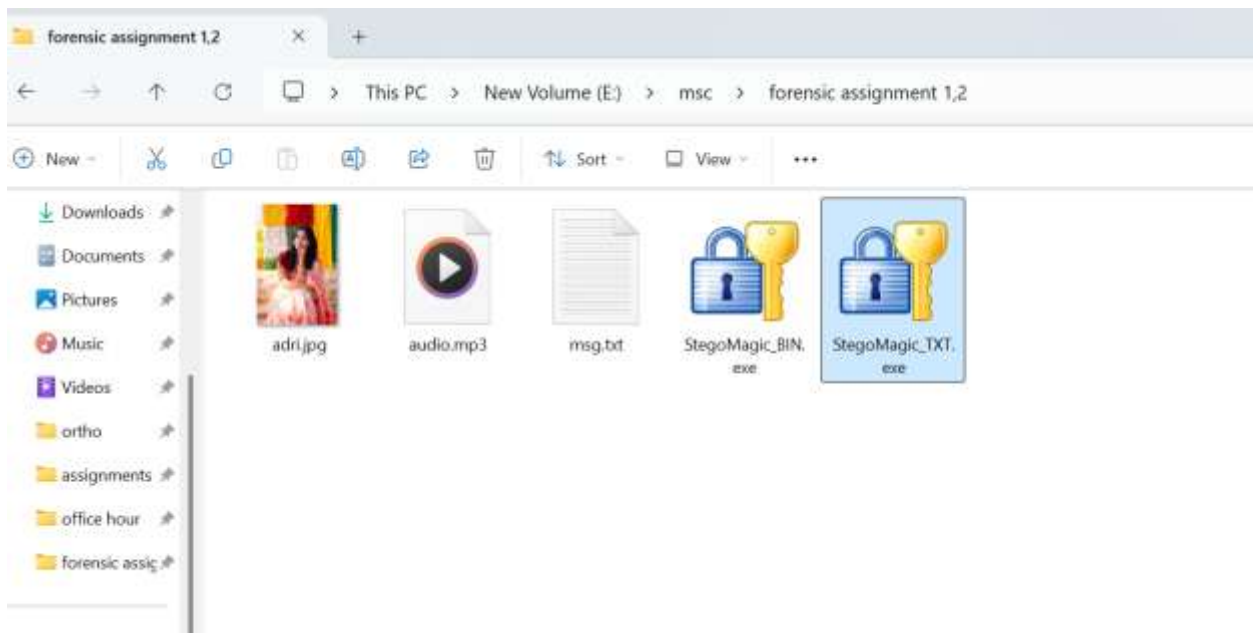
Digital forensics is the process of collecting, analyzing, and presenting digital evidence for legal or investigative purposes. It is used in civil, criminal and administrative cases to uncover and interpret data from devices like computers, smartphones and storage media.

The main goals of digital forensics are to preserve evidence, recover lost or deleted data, and analyze it to identify the facts. Digital forensics helps investigate cybercrimes, data breaches and fraud. It also assists in identifying security flaws and protecting sensitive information. By combining technology and investigation, digital forensics plays a key role in solving modern-day crimes.

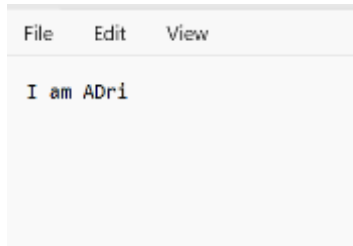
Tools such as EnCase, FTK (Forensic Toolkit) and Autopsy are commonly used to examine digital evidence and ensure its integrity. Here, I used some tools including: StegoMagic, HexWorkshop, lostmypass, EaseUS, IUWEshare.

### Experiment-1: Hiding Text Data using StegoMagic Tool

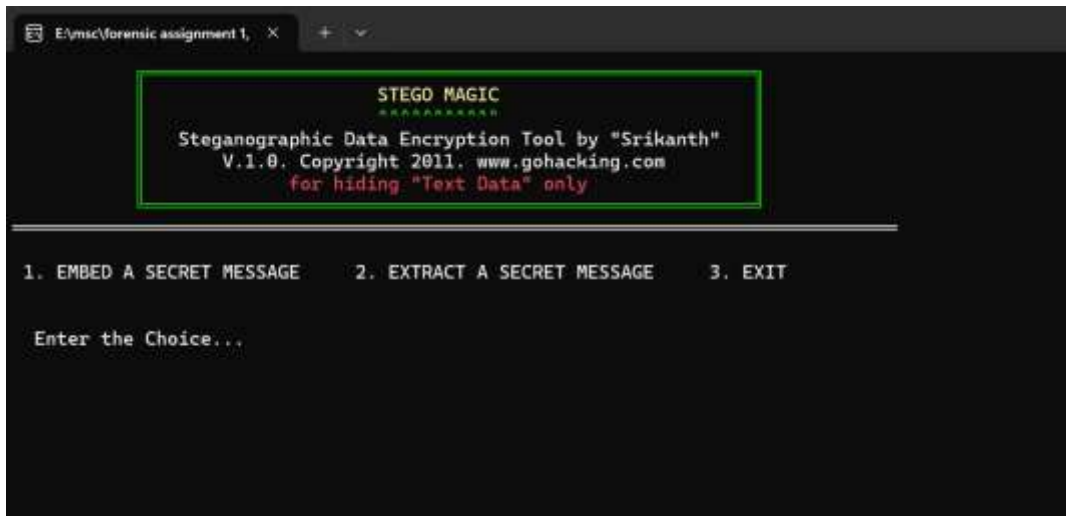
**Step 1:** Download StegoMagic\_Bin and StegoMagic\_TXT tools. Open StegoMagic\_TXT.exe to hide text data only.



**Step 2:** This is a text file which I want to hide inside an image file.



**Step 3:** Enter your choice that is 1.



**Step 4:** Provide the file name first where I want to keep my secret message.

**Step 5:** Then enter the txt file which I want to hide. Embedding will be successfully complete and I'll get a secret key for decryption.

```
E:\msc\forensic assignment 1, X + v

          STEGO MAGIC
          *****
Steganographic Data Encryption Tool by "Srikanth"
V.1.0. Copyright 2011. www.gohacking.com
for hiding "Text Data" only

1. EMBED A SECRET MESSAGE      2. EXTRACT A SECRET MESSAGE      3. EXIT

Enter the Filename in Which You Want to Embed the Secret Message
adri.jpg

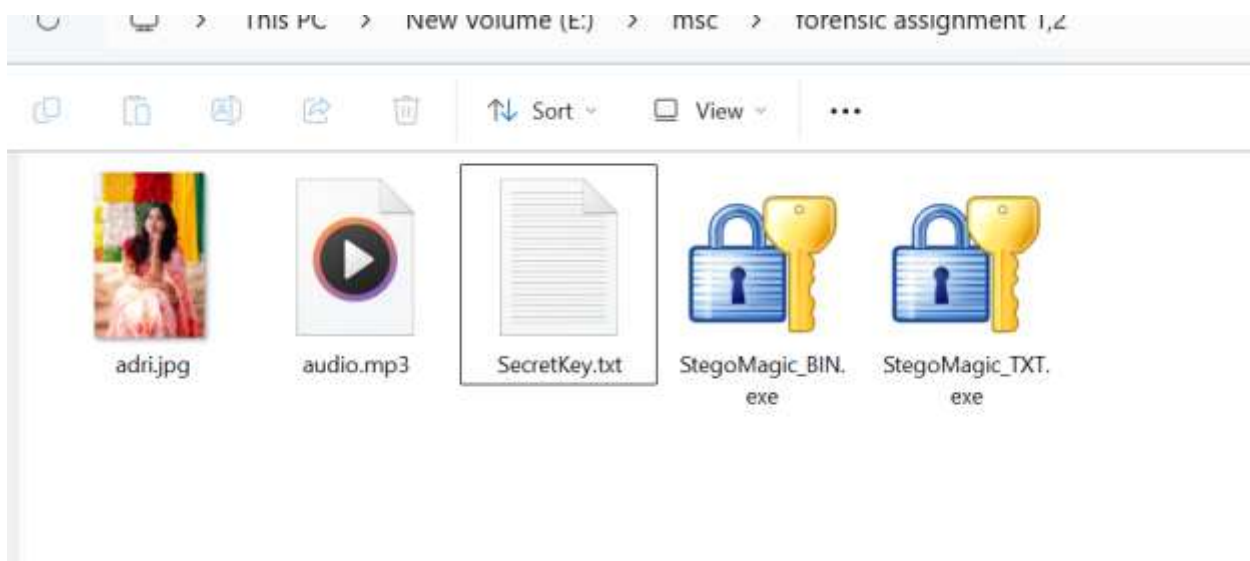
Enter the Filename Containing the Secret Message (*.txt)
msg.txt

Embedding Completed Successfully!

Your Secret Key for Decryption is 9

Press Any Key to Continue...
```

- This will generate a text file with the secret key.

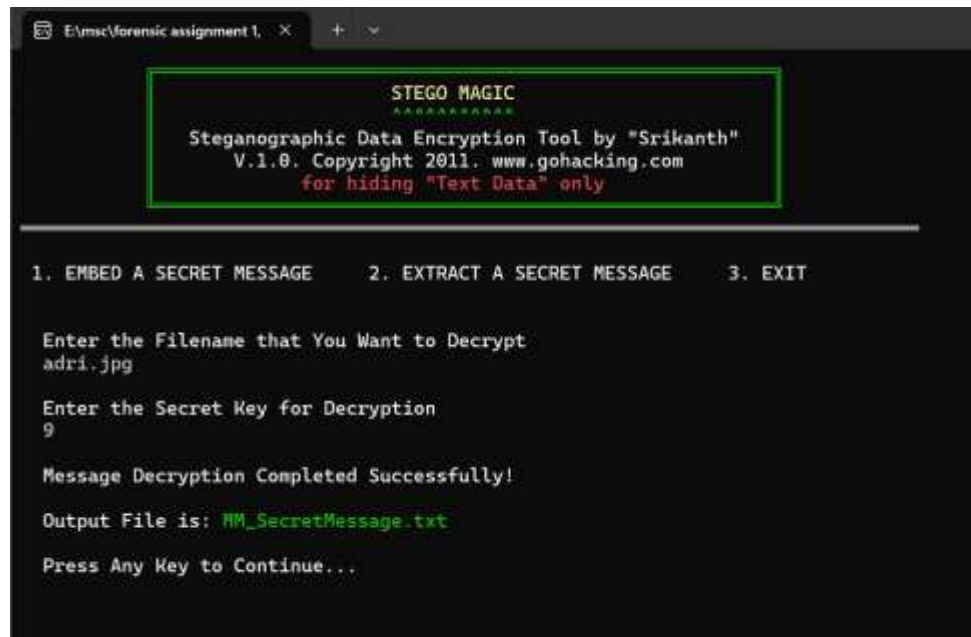


**Step 6:** Now delete the original text file.

**Step 7:** To decrypt the message enter choice 2.

**Step 8:** Enter the file name from where I want to decrypt my text.

- Enter the secret key for decryption which I got.
- It will auto generate a output file named MM\_SecretMessage.txt
- Inside this file I'll get my old text which I deleted.



```
STEGO MAGIC
*****
Steganographic Data Encryption Tool by "Srikanth"
V.1.0. Copyright 2011. www.gohacking.com
for hiding "Text Data" only

1. EMBED A SECRET MESSAGE    2. EXTRACT A SECRET MESSAGE    3. EXIT

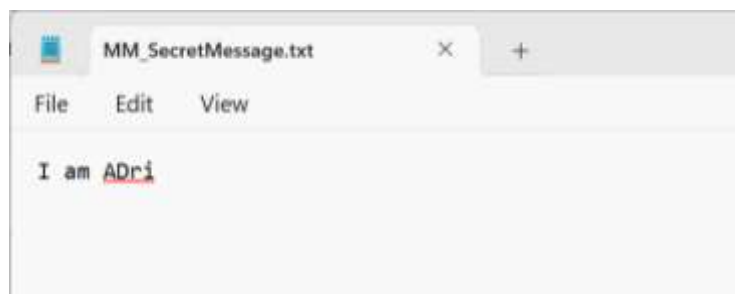
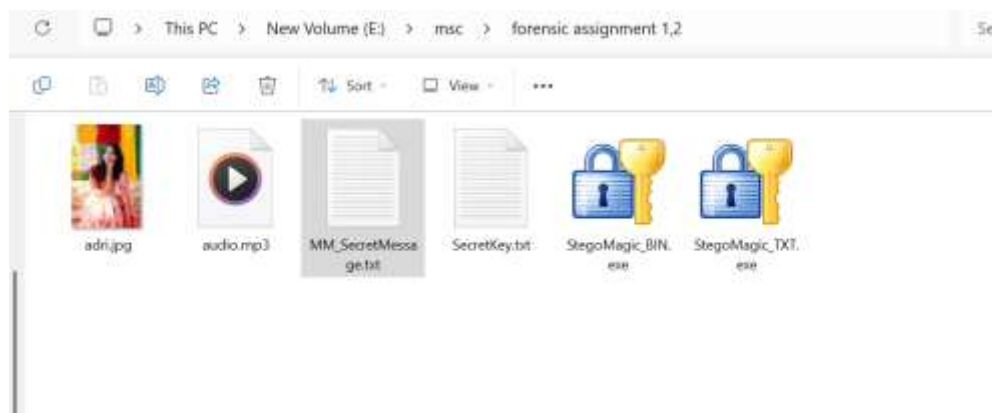
Enter the Filename that You Want to Decrypt
adri.jpg

Enter the Secret Key for Decryption
9

Message Decryption Completed Successfully!

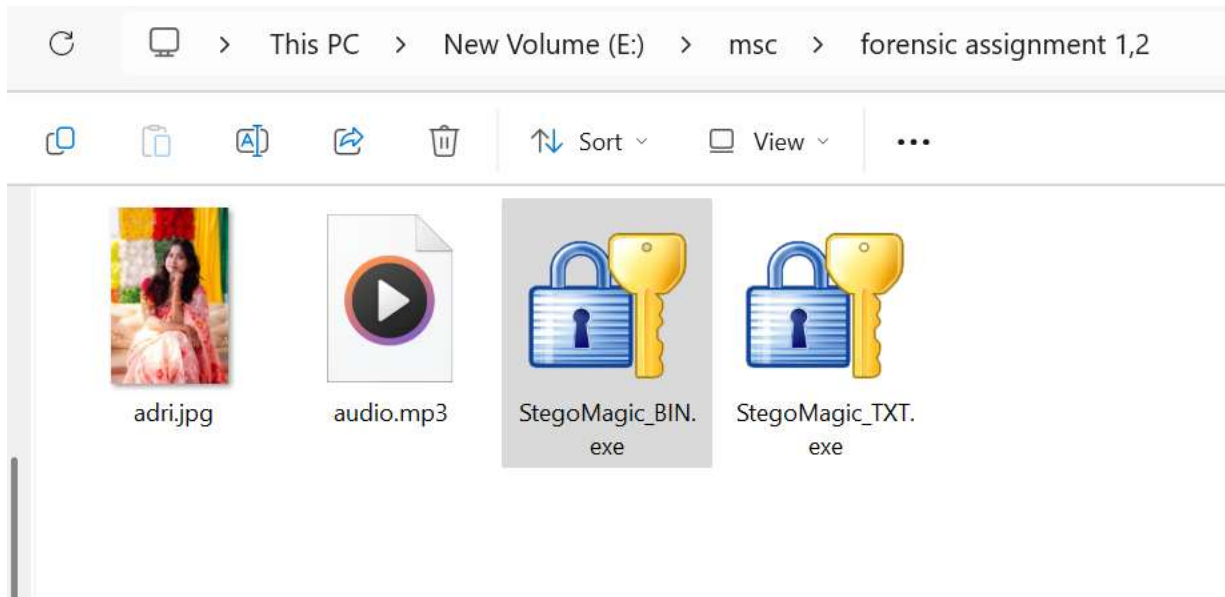
Output File is: MM_SecretMessage.txt

Press Any Key to Continue...
```



## Experiment-2: Hiding “Binary Data”(Image, Audio/video & EXE) using StegoMagic Tool

**Step 1:** Click on StegoMagic\_BIN.exe tools to extract any data such as image, audio/video or exe.



**Step 2:** Enter your choice 1

**Step 3:** Enter the file name where I want to hide a file. Suppose, I want to hide my image file adri.jpg inside an audio file.

- Enter the file which I want to hide. Eg: adri.jpg.
- It will generate a secret key.

```
E:\msc\forensic assignment 1, x + v
STEGO MAGIC
*****
Steganographic Data Encryption Tool by "Srikanth"
V.1.0. Copyright 2011. www.gohacking.com
for hiding "Binary Data" (Image, Audio/Video & EXE)

1. EMBED A FILE IN ANOTHER    2. EXTRACT AN EMBEDDED FILE    3. EXIT

Enter the Filename in Which You Want to Embed the Other File
audio.mp3

Enter the Filename that You Want to Embed
adri.jpg

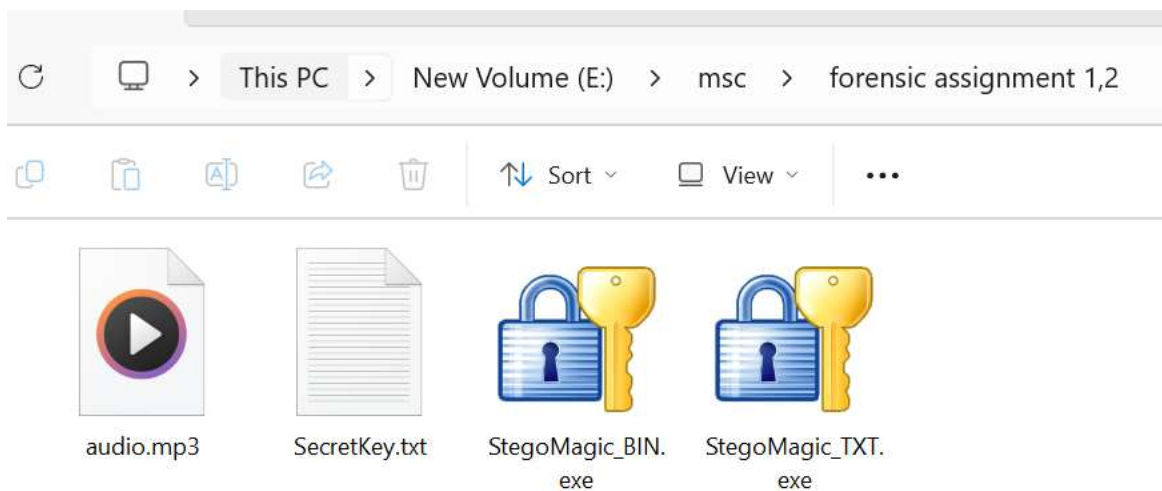
Embedding of "adri.jpg" in "audio.mp3" Completed Successfully!

Your Secret Key for Decryption is 1311083

Press Any Key to Continue...
```

**Step 4:** Then I'll delete the original image file.

- Now I want to extract my image file from the audio.mp3.



- Enter your choice 2.
- Enter the file name where the hidden image is. Eg: audio.mp3.
- Enter the output file name. Suppose: adripic.jpg.
- Enter the key for decryption.

```
E:\msc\forensic assignment 1, X + v

          STEGO MAGIC
          *****
Steganographic Data Encryption Tool by "Srikanth"
V.1.0. Copyright 2011. www.gohacking.com
for hiding "Binary Data" (Image, Audio/Video & EXE)

1. EMBED A FILE IN ANOTHER    2. EXTRACT AN EMBEDDED FILE    3. EXIT

Enter the Filename that You Want to Decrypt
audio.mp3

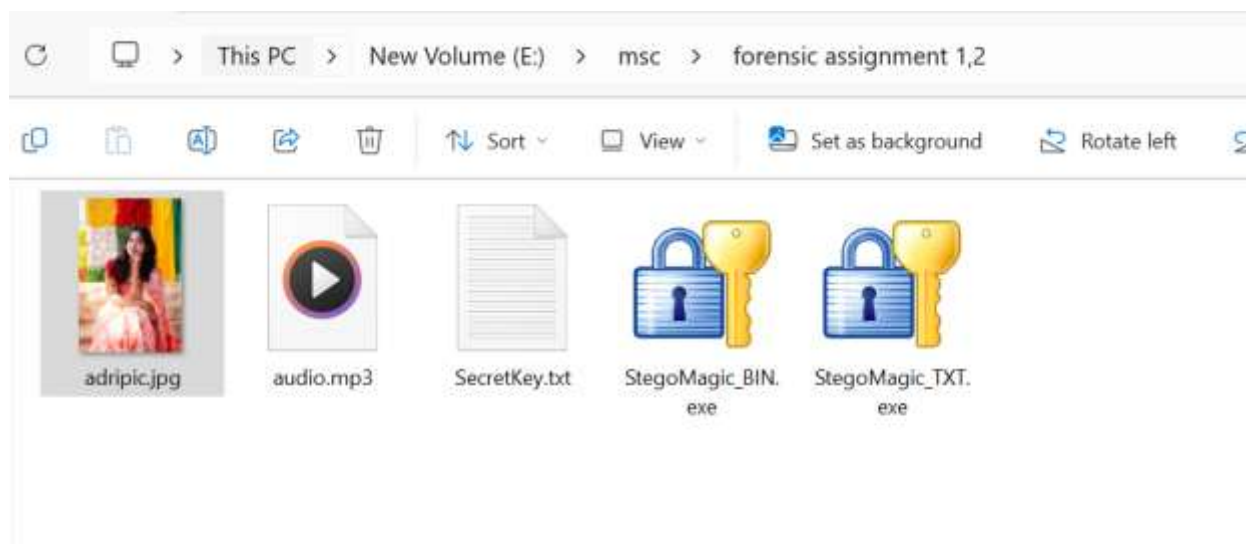
Enter a Name for the Output File that is to be Decrypted
adripic.jpg

Enter the Secret Key for Decryption
1311083

File Decryption Completed Successfully!
Output File is: adripic.jpg

Press Any Key to Continue...
```

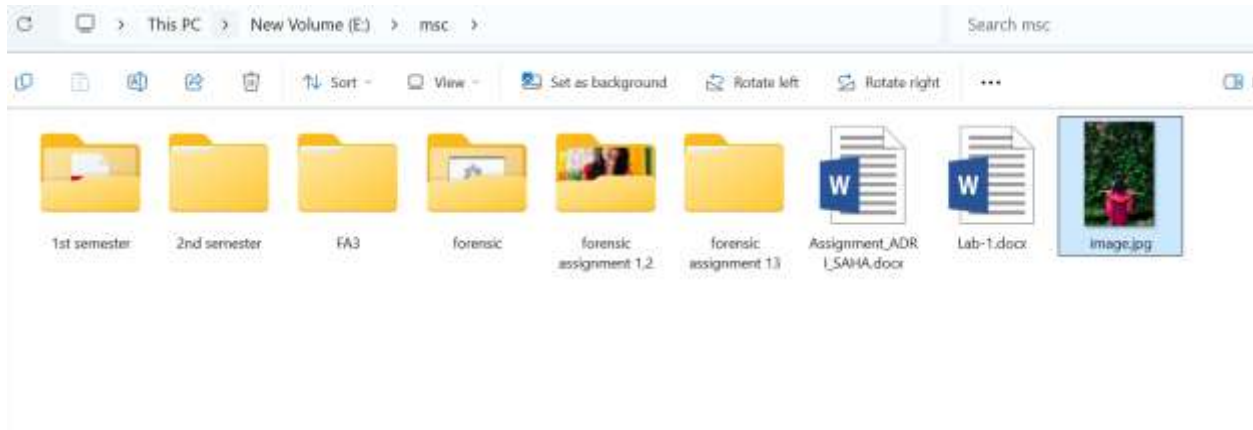
- Go to the folder and see the picture is extracted from the audio file successfully.



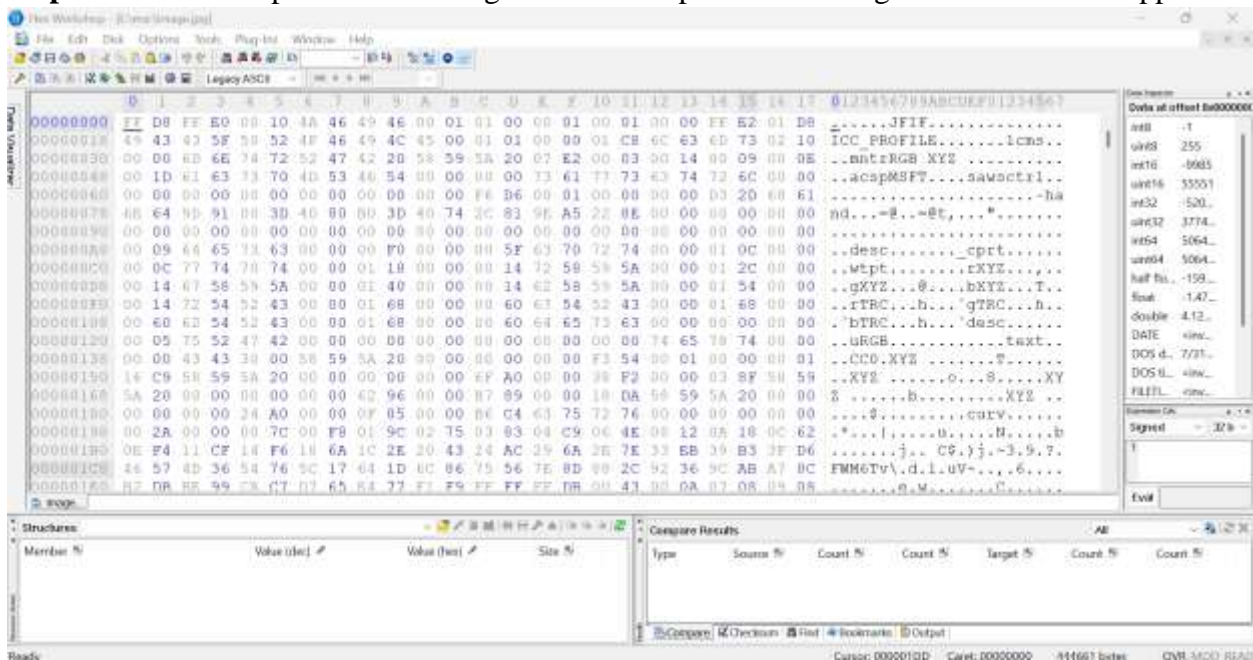


### Experiment-3: File hiding using HexWorkshop:

**Step-1:** Let us consider we want to analyze an image file which is in format jpg as shown:

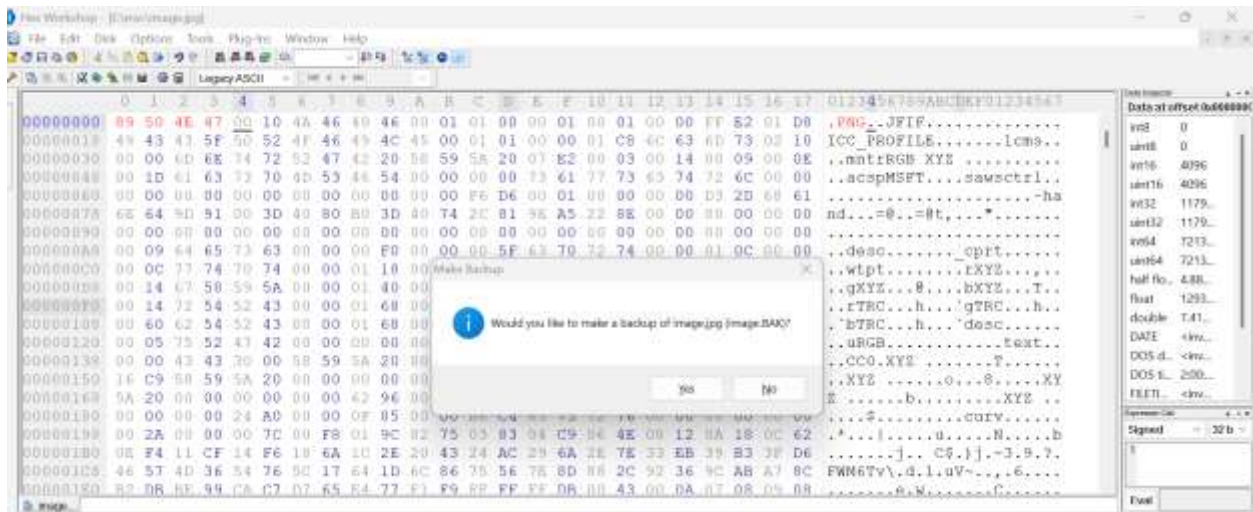


**Step-2:** Now if we open this file using HexWorkshop then following hex value will be appear:

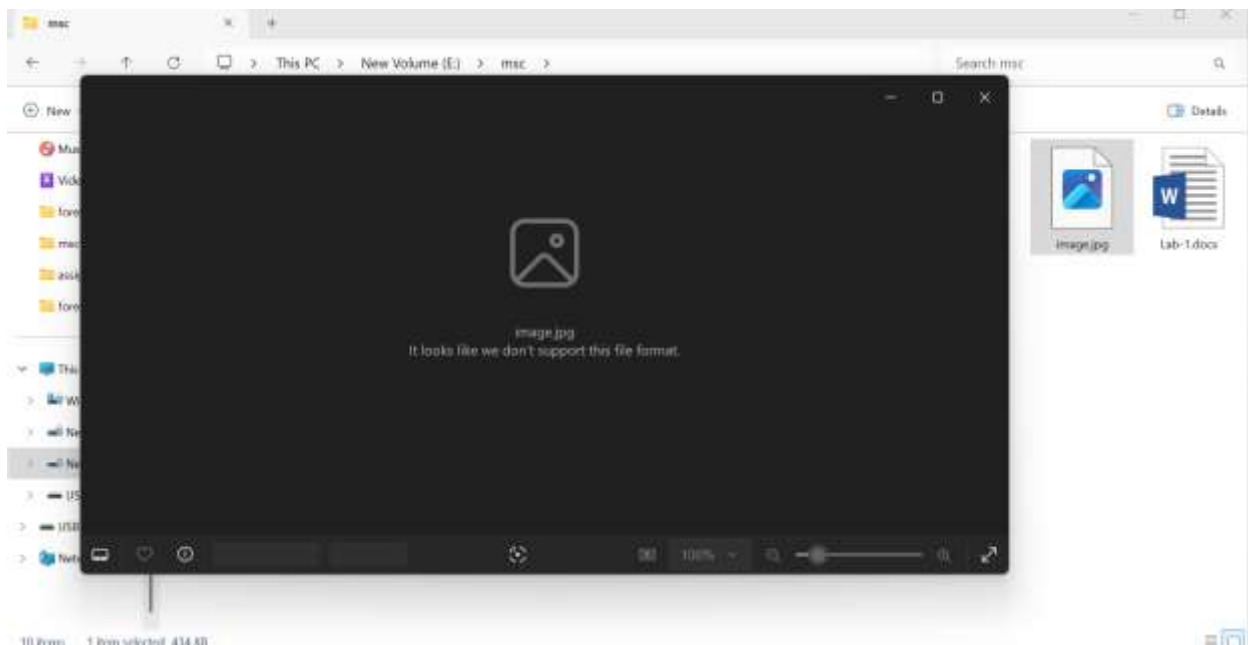
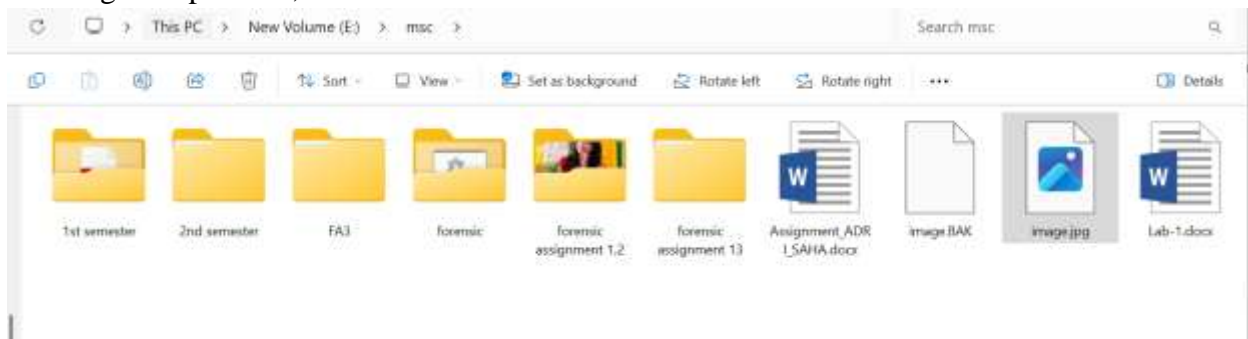


Here at the top of the Hex Workshop window, note that the hexadecimal values starting of original image is FF D8 FF E0 from offset 0 and the label name JFIF starting at offset 6. For different files this first 8 characters are define their file extension or type. For analyzing a file we have to know all possible formats.

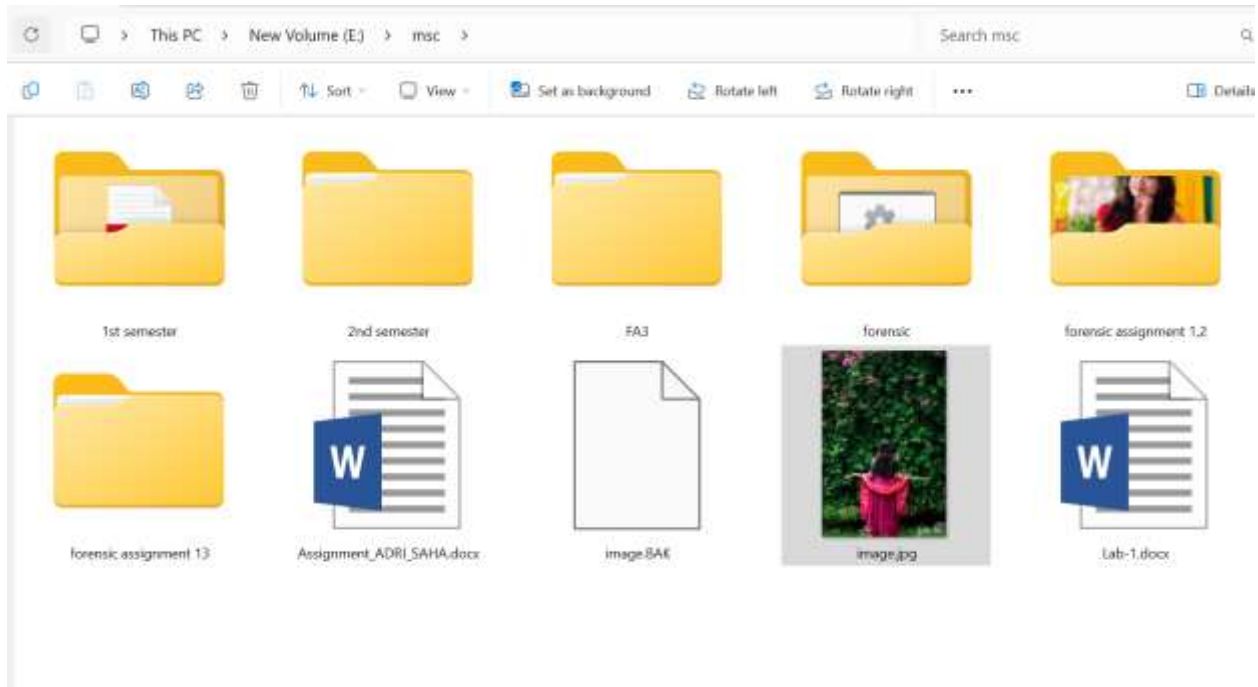
**Step-3:** Now replace the first 8 number with 89 50 4E 47 which is the header for png image file and then save the original file.



**Step-4:** After saving the file our main image will be damaged and it will not open any program for image file preview, as follows:



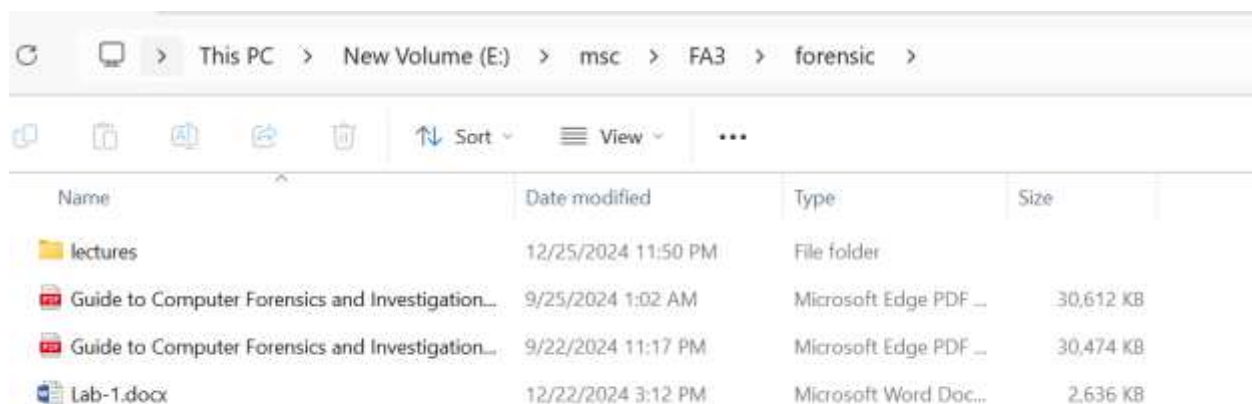
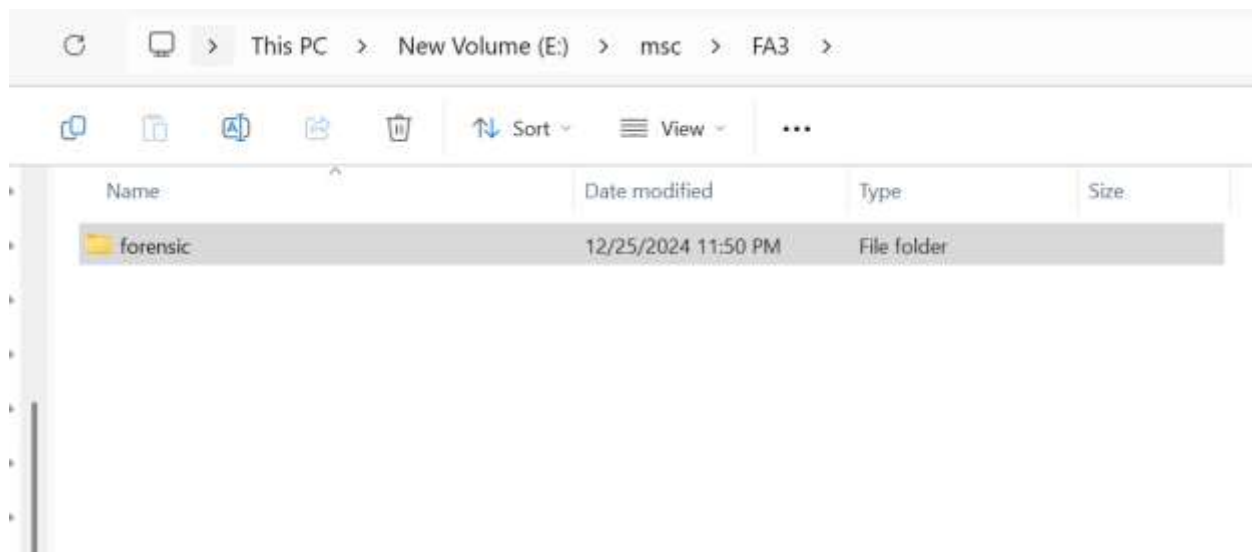
**Step-5:** For reconstruct the damaged file again we have to replace the first 8 values with FF D8 FF E0 which is the jpg header, then it will be visible and can open with image viewer:



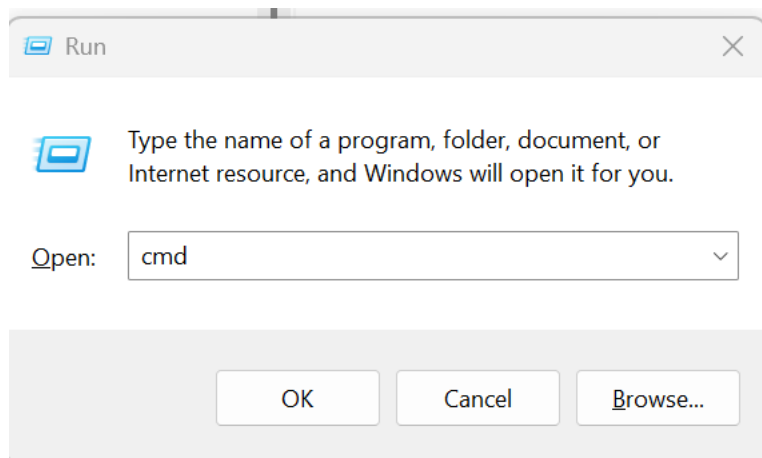
In this way we can hide a file and then reconstruct it again. Thus we can maintain privacy of our confidential files.

#### Experiment-4: Folder Lock and Unlock Using Command Prompt

**Step 1:** Create a folder named forensic. Inside this folder there are some files.



**Step 2:** Type win+R and write command cmd. Or,



**Step 3:** Open the terminal from this folder.

```
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Install the latest PowerShell for new features and improvements! https://aka.ms/PSWindows

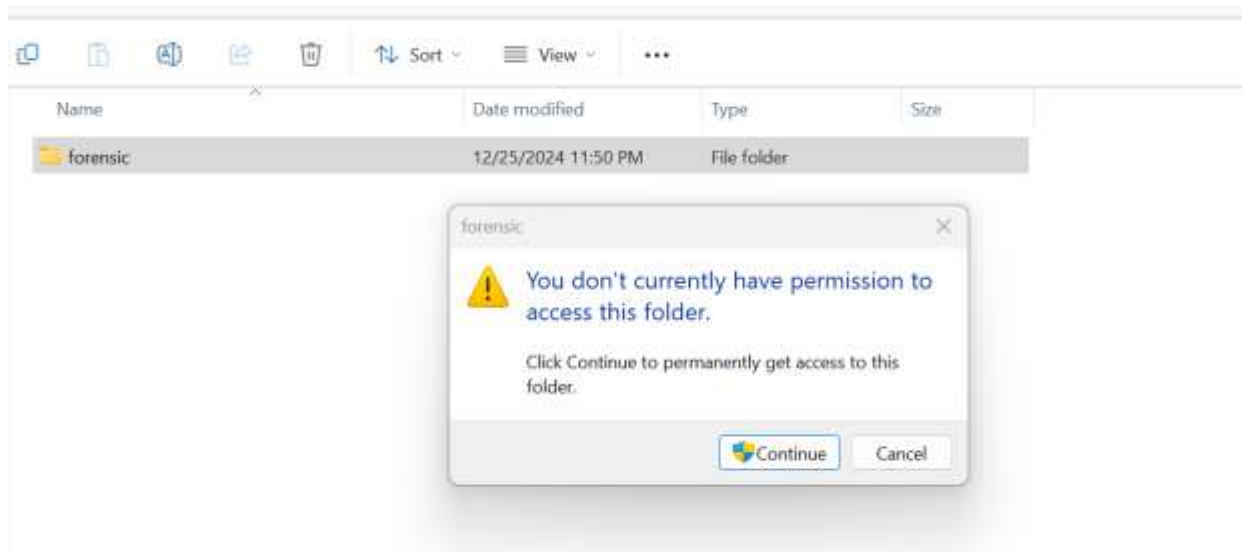
PS E:\msc\FA3>
```

**Step 4:** Write `cacls file_name /p everyone: n`

Here: `cacls forensic /p everyone:n`

```
PS E:\msc\FA3> cacls forensic /p everyone:n
Are you sure (Y/N)?Y
processed dir: E:\msc\FA3\forensic
PS E:\msc\FA3>
```

**Step 5:** Now the folder is locked. If I want to access this folder it will show this error.



**Step 6:** To unlock this folder again,

- Go to cmd prompt.
- Type

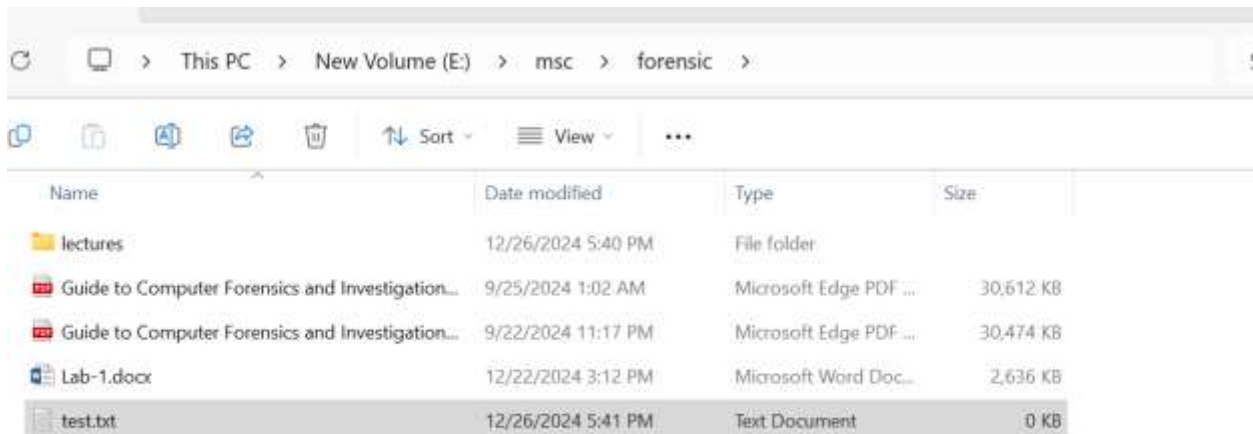
`cacls forensic /p everyone:f`

- Click Y for Yes.

```
PS E:\msc\FA3> cacls forensic /p everyone:f
Are you sure (Y/N)?y
processed dir: E:\msc\FA3\forensic
PS E:\msc\FA3>
```

### Experiment-5: Protect a folder with Password using batch file:

**Step 1:** 1st we choose a folder. Then we create a Text file into that folder.



**Step 2:** Then we write down a script on that Txt file and Set a Password & save it.

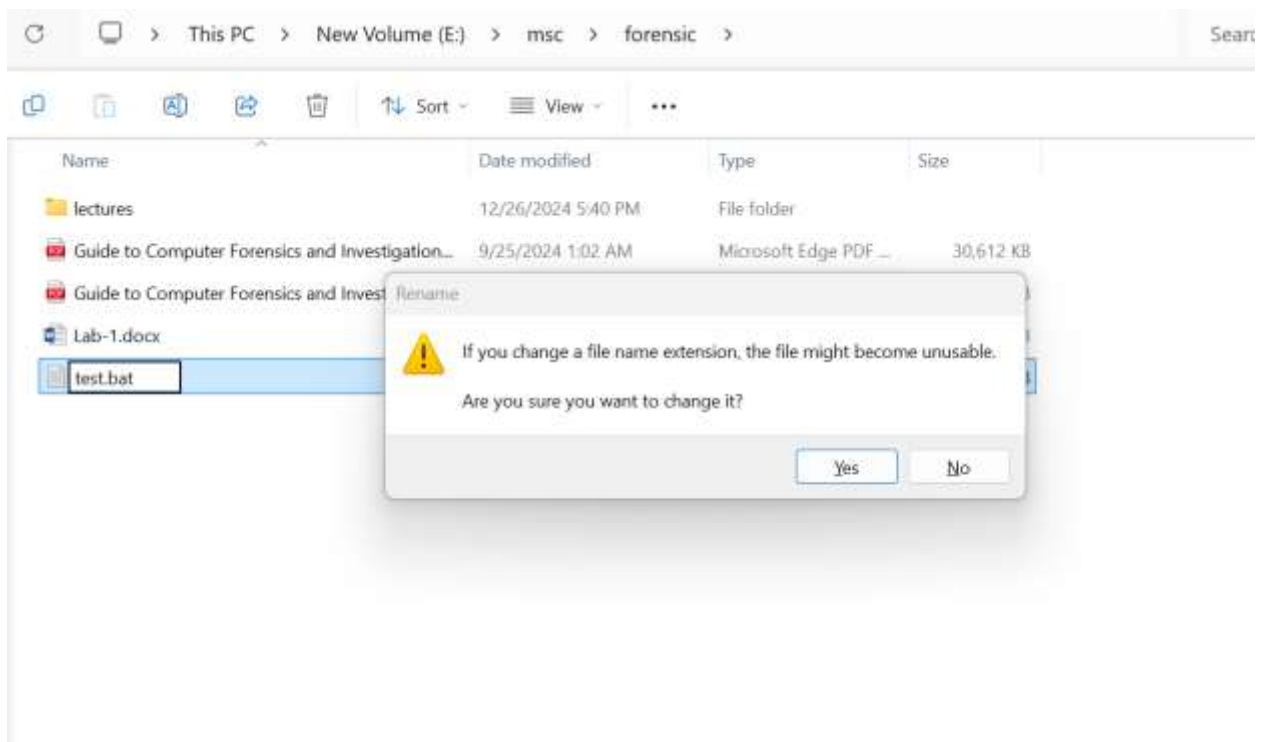
```
@ECHO OFF
if EXIST "Control Panel.{21EC2020-3AEA-1069-A2DD-08002B30309D}" goto
UNLOCK
if NOT EXIST Private goto MDPrivate
:CONFIRM
echo Are you sure to lock this folder? (Y/N)
set/p "cho=>"
if %cho%==Y goto LOCK
if %cho%==y goto LOCK
if %cho%==n goto END
if %cho%==N goto END
echo Invalid choice.
goto CONFIRM
:LOCK
ren Private "Control Panel.{21EC2020-3AEA-1069-A2DD-08002B30309D}"
attrib +h +s "Control Panel.{21EC2020-3AEA-1069-A2DD-08002B30309D}"
echo Folder locked
goto End
:UNLOCK
```

```

echo Enter password to Unlock Your Secure Folder
set/p "pass=>"
if NOT %pass%== 1234 goto FAIL
attrib -h -s "Control Panel.{21EC2020-3AEA-1069-A2DD-08002B30309D}"
ren "Control Panel.{21EC2020-3AEA-1069-A2DD-08002B30309D}" Private
echo Folder Unlocked successfully
goto End
:FAIL
echo Invalid password
goto end
:MDPrivate
md Private
echo Private created successfully
goto End
:End

```

**Step 3:** Now we change the text file extension from .txt to .bat. when it changes, it will give us permission. And it creates a private Folder. Then we move all files & data into that private folder.

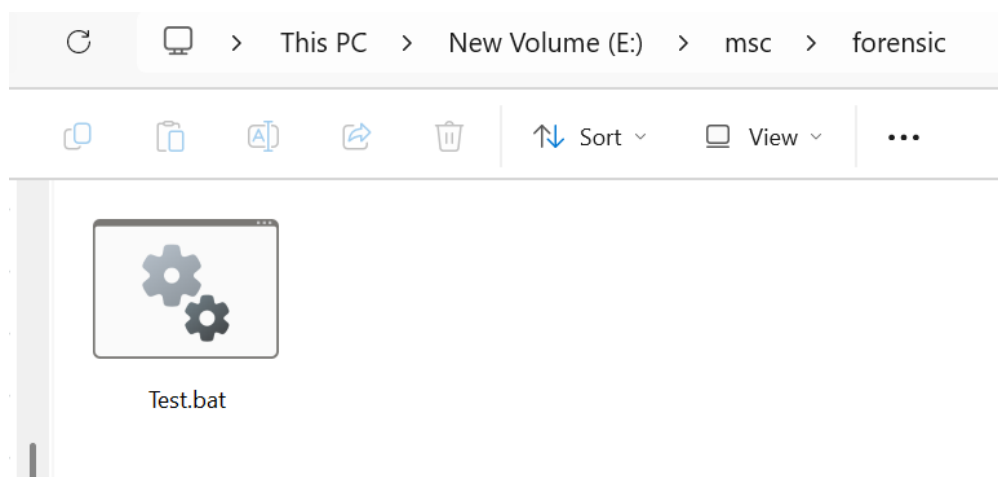




Name	Date modified	Type	Size
lectures	12/26/2024 5:40 PM	File folder	
Guide to Computer Forensics and Investigation...	9/25/2024 1:02 AM	Microsoft Edge PDF ...	30,612 KB
Guide to Computer Forensics and Investigation...	9/22/2024 11:17 PM	Microsoft Edge PDF ...	30,474 KB
Lab-1.docx	12/22/2024 3:12 PM	Microsoft Word Doc...	2,636 KB
test.bat	12/26/2024 5:44 PM	Windows Batch File	1 KB

**Step 4:** Now we click the .bat file, then open a Command port & it takes permission from the user. When we select yes. The folder becomes locked and files are hidden. Again, when we click the .bat file, Command ports are open again and it wants a password. When the password match the folder will be open otherwise it will be encrypted.

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd. x + v
Are you sure to lock this folder? (Y/N)
>
```

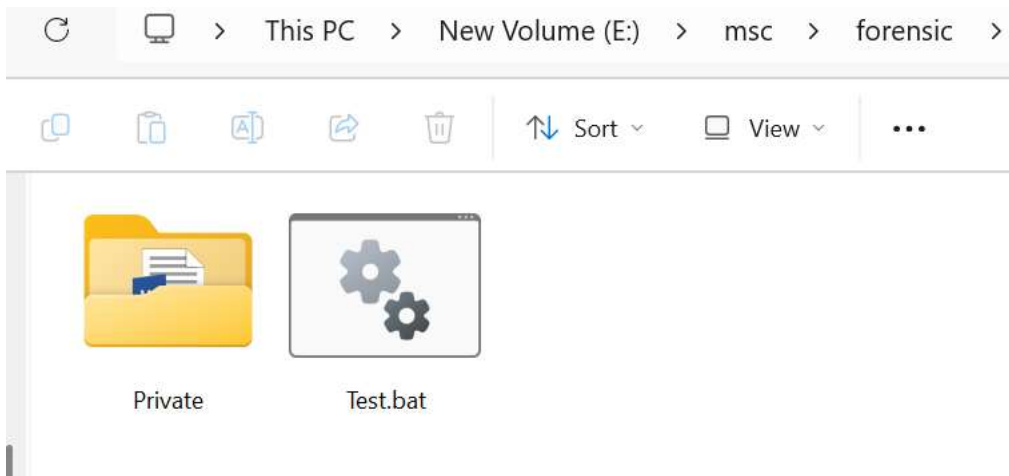


```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd. x + v
Enter password to Unlock Your Secure Folder
>
```



```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd. X + v
Enter password to Unlock Your Secure Folder
>12345
```

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd. X + v
Enter password to Unlock Your Secure Folder
>1234
```



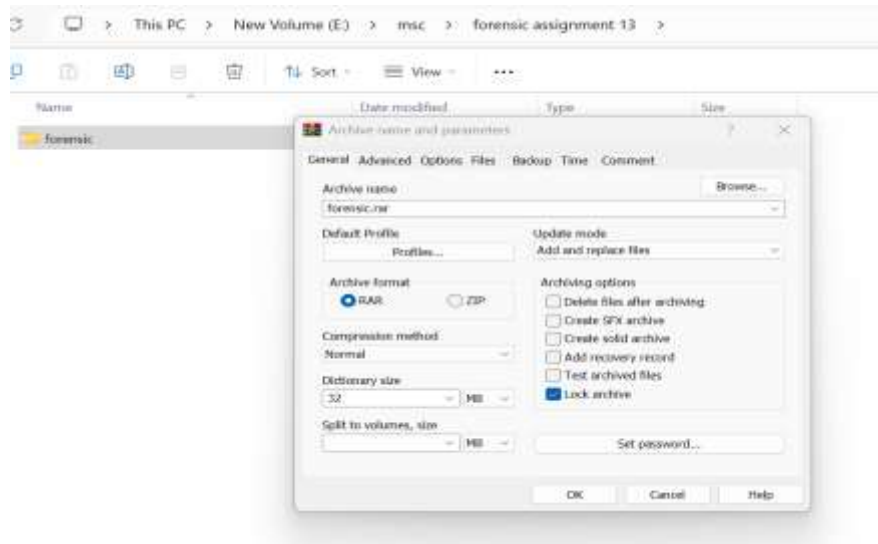
### Experiment-6: Protect Archive File Using Password:

**Step 1:** Right click on the folder.

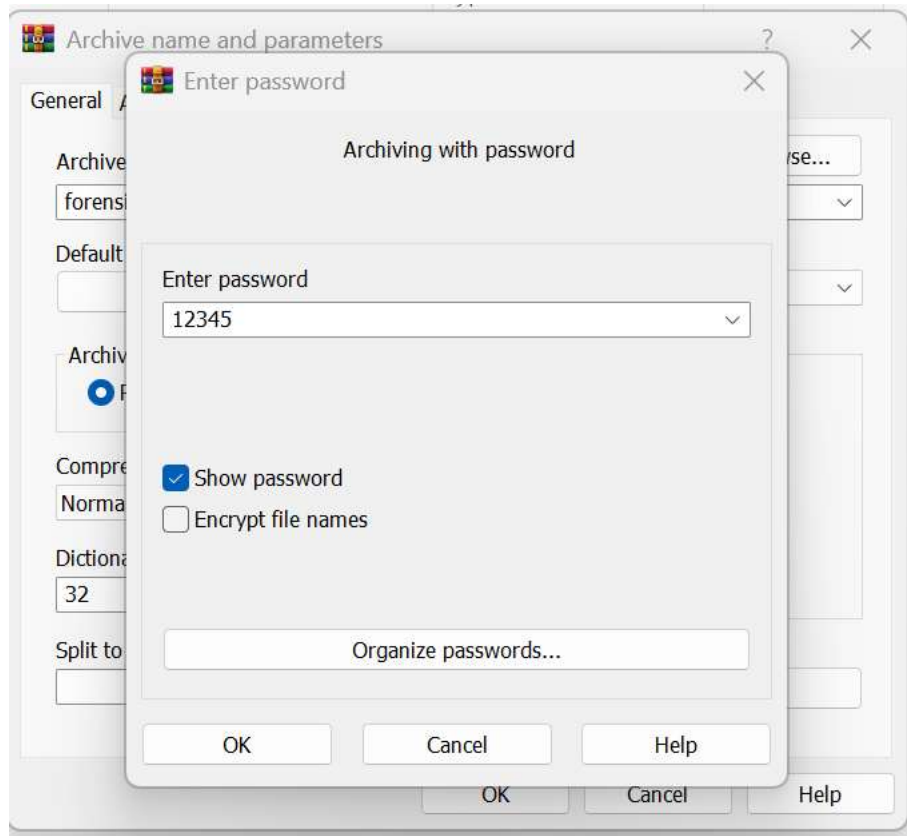
**Step 2:** Click on WinRar--- add to archive.

**Step 3:** Archive format RAR, advanced option: mark on lock archive.

**Step 4:** Click on set password.

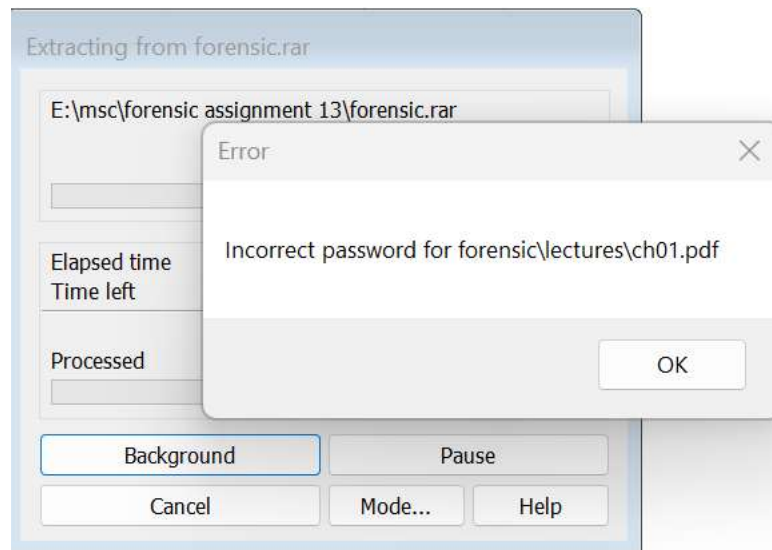
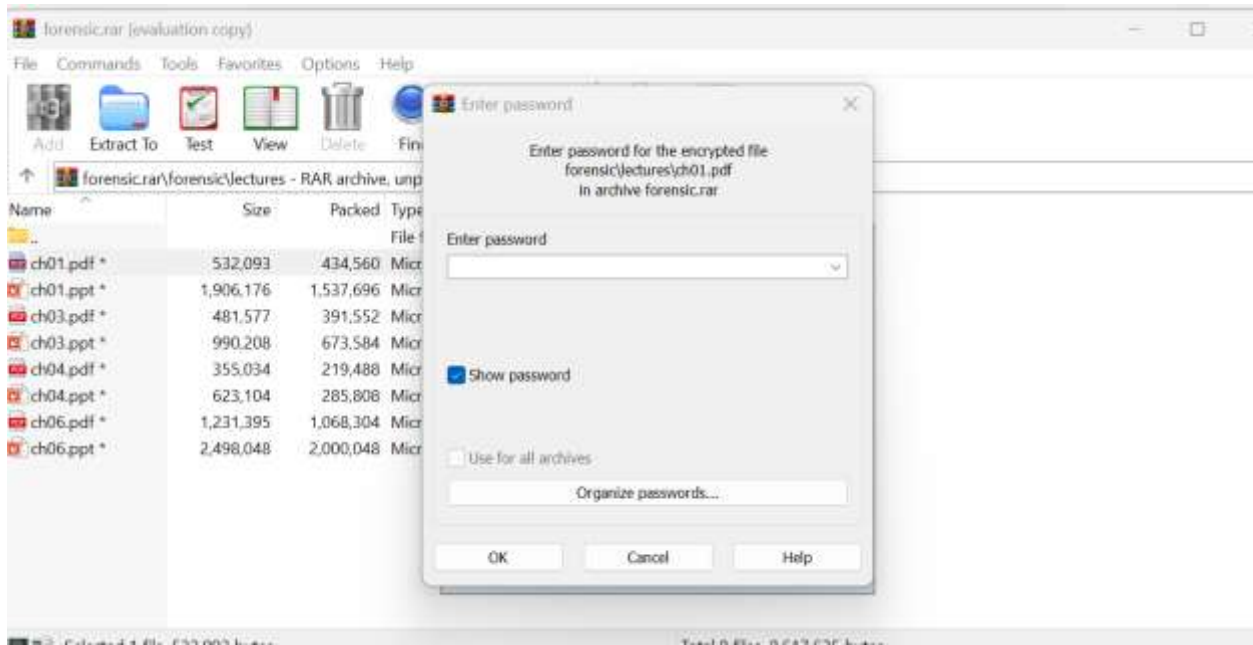


**Step 5:** Write your password. Suppose: 12345. Click on ok.




**Step 6:** Now, to open the files it will ask to enter your password.

**Step 7:** If you will type the wrong password it will be restricted.





←  Extract Archive

## The Extraction Operation was not Completed

An unexpected error is preventing the archive from being extracted.



Error 0x8096002A: No error description available.

To close this wizard, click Finish.

Finish

Cancel

### Experiment-7: Protect any document File with Password:

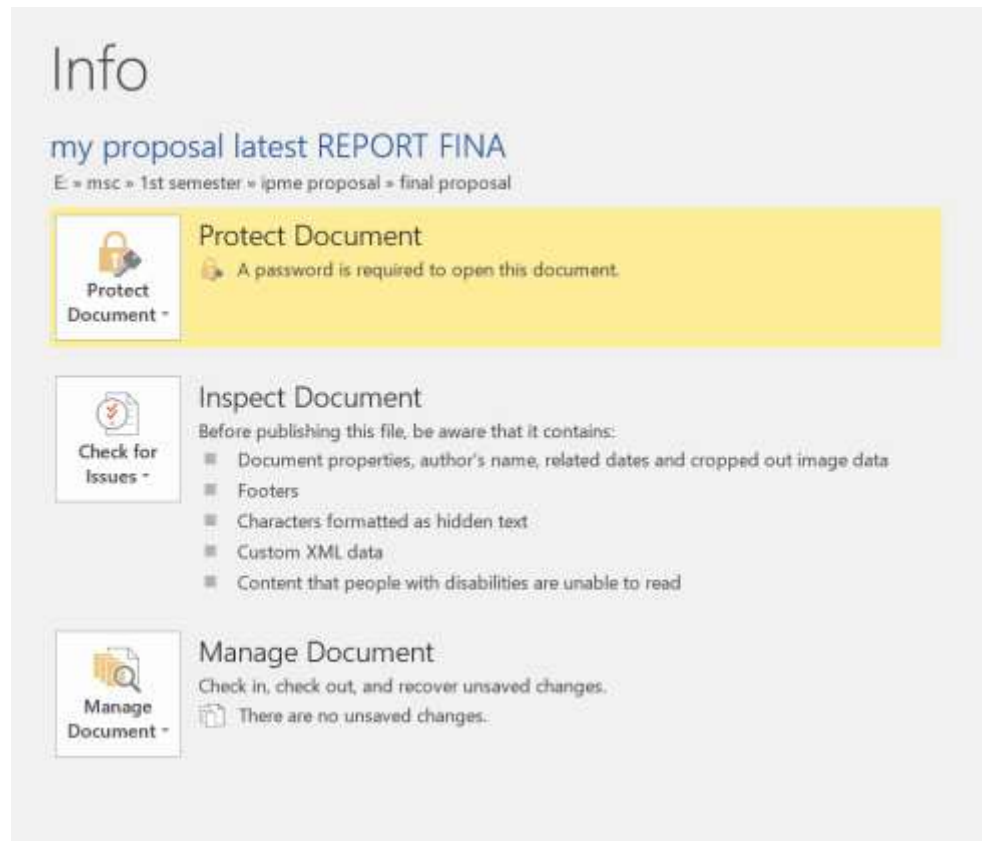
**Step 1:** Create a document file and go to file option.



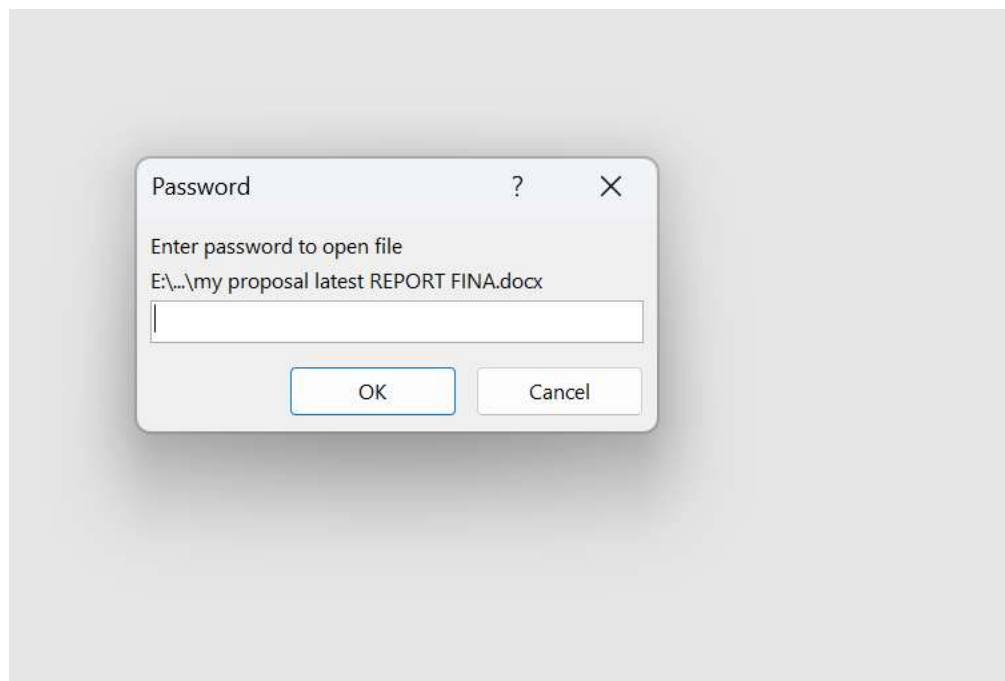


**Step 2:** Click on protect document and click on encrypt with password.

**Step 3:** Reenter the password.



**Step 4:** Now the file is password protected.



**Step 5:** To break the password there is a online tool: Go to LostMyPass url.

The screenshot shows the LostMyPass website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the site logo and links for HOME, HOW IT WORKS, FILE TYPES, PRICING, FREE TOOLS, and ABOUT. A red button labeled 'TRY IT NOW!' is also present. Below the navigation bar, a message says 'Please upload your file here and follow further instructions.' A large dashed red box contains the text 'Drop file to upload' and a red button 'or click here'. Below this box, it states 'Maximum upload file size: 100MB'. A green success banner at the bottom reads '✓ Success! Your password is recovered'. Below the banner, a text input field shows the 'Recovered password:' as '12345'. At the bottom, there's a question 'Have we solved your problem?' with two buttons: 'Donate' and 'Review Us'.

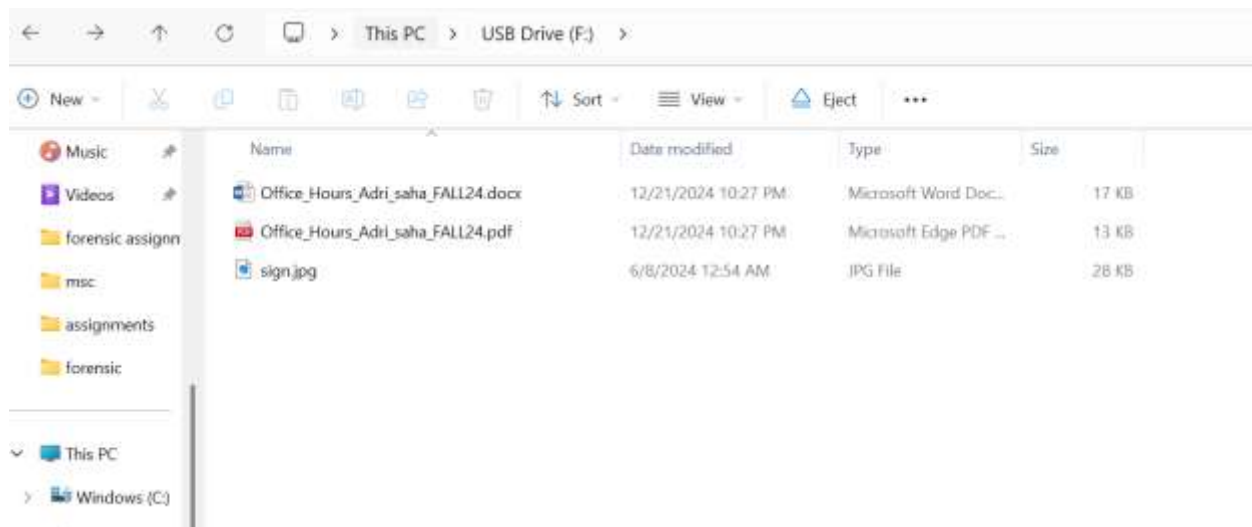
- Password recovered successfully.

### Experiment-8: Recovering files from a formatted hard drive using EaseUS:

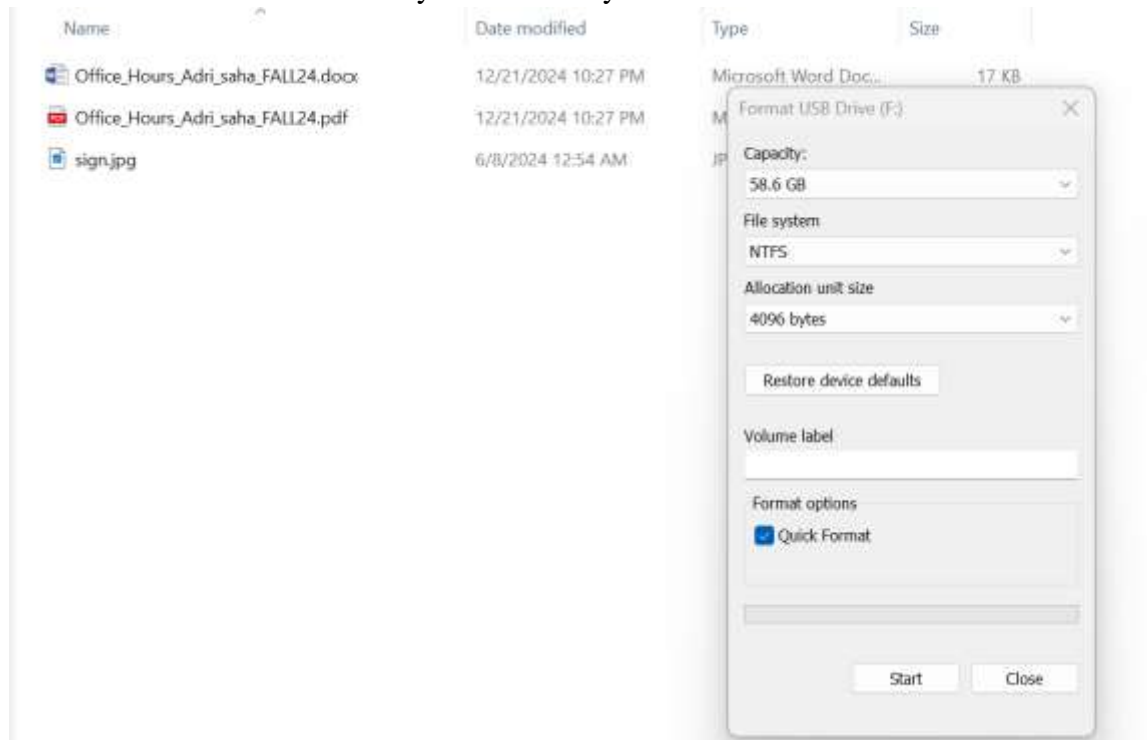
#### **How to recover files from a formatted hard drive?**

EaseUS Data Recovery Wizard is your best choice. It allows you to complete the recovery job with a few simple clicks. You can download the software and follow the below guide to recover your lost data.

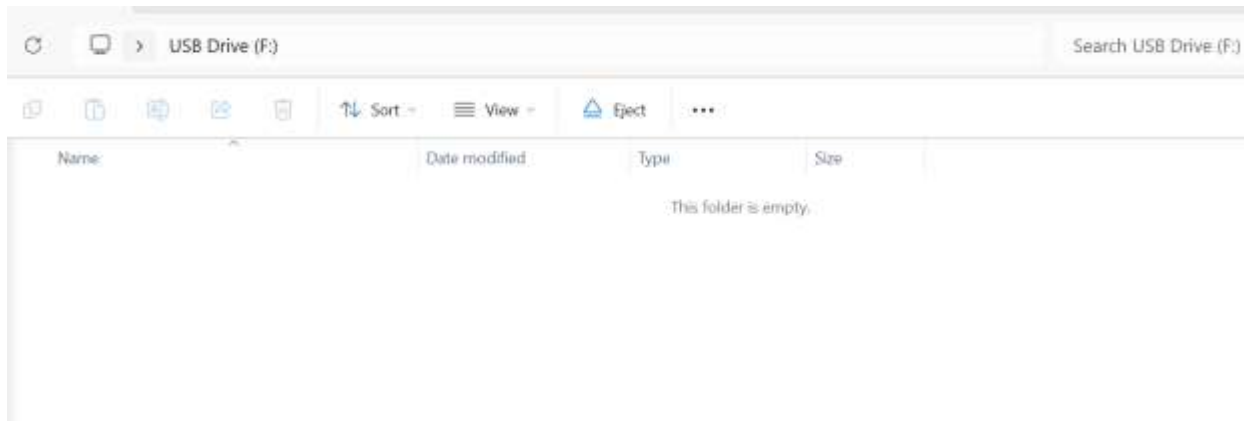
**STEP 1:** At first, I have kept a file in my pen Drive.



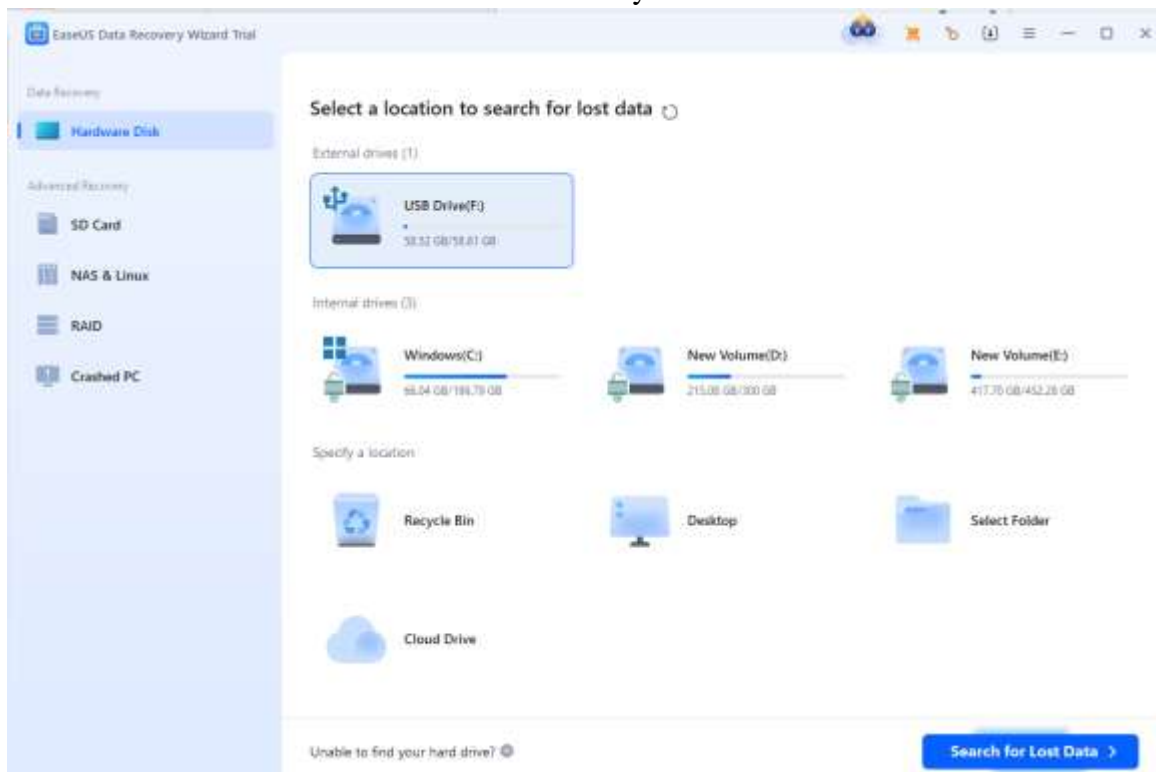
**STEP 2:** Then I format it and try to recover my File.







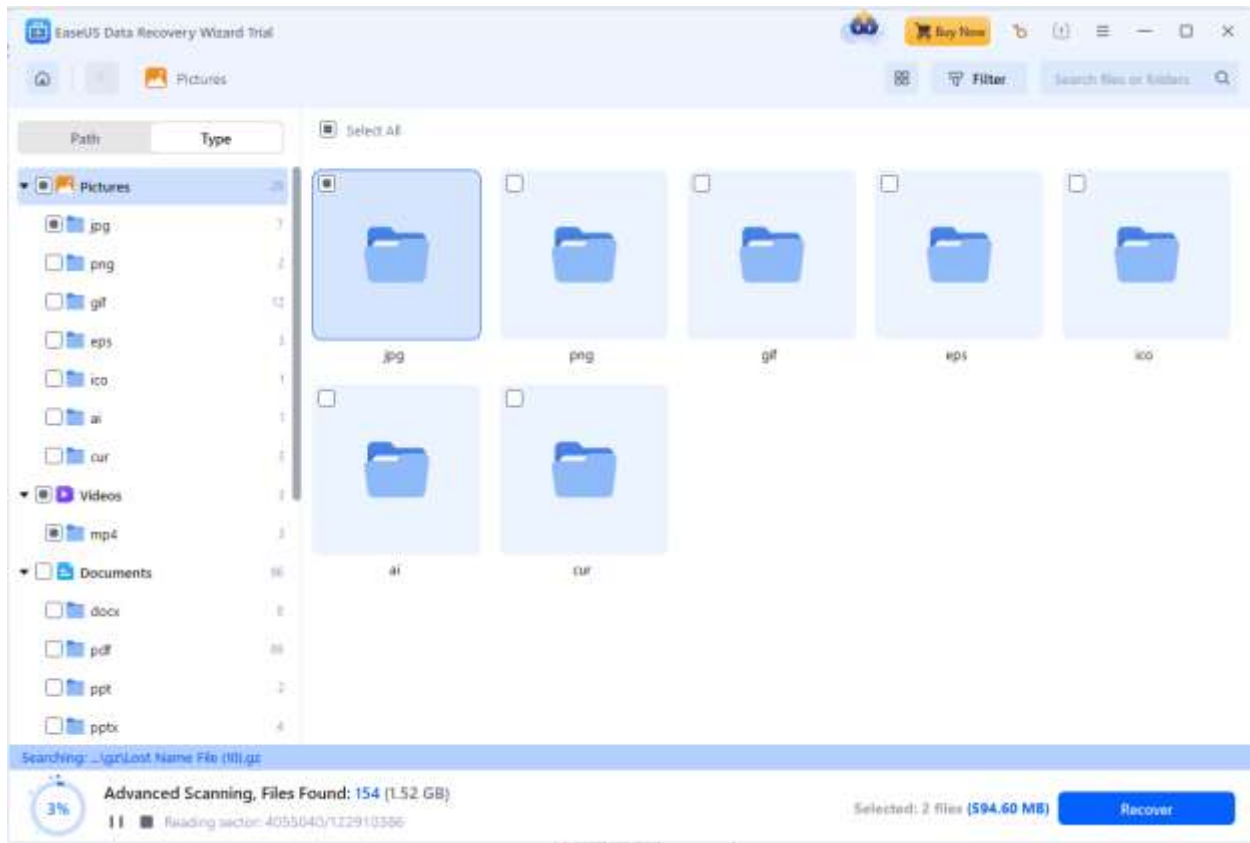
**STEP 3:** Launch EaseUS formatted data recovery software after the installation.



**STEP 4:** Choose the hard drive which you've accidentally formatted. - - Click "Scan". Start scanning lost data all over the hard drive.

**STEP 5:** After the scan, browse data in each section, especially in "Lost Partition". It's a highlighted feature of EaseUS Data Recovery Wizard for retrieving data from a formatted hard drive partition. - Select the data files you wish to recover.

**STEP 6:** Click "Recover".



### Experiment-9: Removal Disk Recovery Using IUWShare:

Download IUWShare from <https://www.iuweshare.com/usb-flash-drive-data-recovery.html>

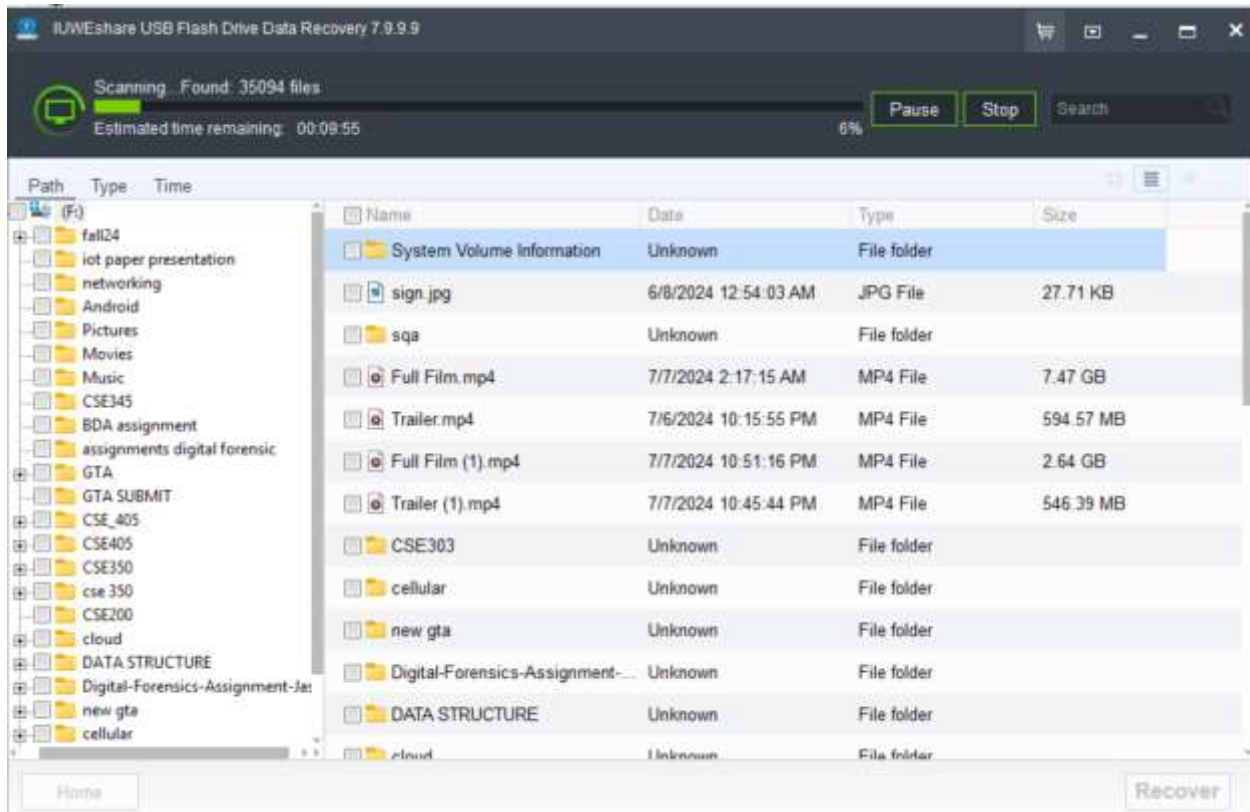
**Step-1:** Run the software and click recover all or you can select the specific files you want to recover.

**Step-2:** After click start the list of removal disk will show. Select the suspect drive and click scan:

**Step-3:** After complete the scanning, the list of present and deleted files will be shown in a table:

**Step-4:** Now you can select the desired file and then can preview or recover:

**Step-5:** Currently you just see the deleted and present files in the usb drive but if you want to recover those files before format the drive, then you have to click “Deep Scan”. After that it will scan the drive again and show the list of all those files which are stored in this drive upto 1000 format:



### Conclusion:

With the growing reliance on the internet and information technology, digital crimes (e-crimes) have become a significant challenge, requiring advanced prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution methods. Computer forensics, an emerging field, combines information technology, forensic science, and law to address these challenges by detecting crimes and gathering evidence admissible in court.

In this assignment, I have explored key forensic techniques such as data recovery, data hiding, validation, protection, and reconstruction. Through this effort, I believe I have successfully demonstrated the fundamental concepts and importance of computer forensics.