Autopsy

Before We Get Started

During this class, we will go through the capabilities of Autopsy together

We will use a common case file

But it will take a few minutes to get set up

Let's do that here

Do the following on your Windows RADISHng desktop

Use the File Explorer and go to R:\Share\Labs\Autopsy Lab

Double-click on the 2009 M57-Jean.zip file

Select the Extract All icon on the File ribbon

Extract the files to your Autopsy Base Directory

Use the *Case > New Case* menu item to get the pathname

When it is done, open this case in Autopsy



Earlier Class Session

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Original Autopsy

A "sort of" GUI for TSK

Brian Carrier originally created a "sort of" GUI that provided a primitive graphical interface for TSK tools

Named Autopsy Forensic Browser (AFB)

The AFB interface was originally a web-based interface

Originally ran on most browsers

Natively used TSK-based scripts on Linux and WinXP Service Pack 2 and greater

Original Autopsy A "gort of" GILL for TSK

A "sort of" GUI for TSK

The original *AFB* was a set of scripts that were run by the web browser

The scripts ran

TSK tools

Some Linux distro tools

Other software

This software was used to analyze a drive, partition or file image

It helped organize a forensic analysis
It was free



Evolution of Autopsy

Eventually, *AFB* was rewritten as a native application that would run on Linux, Windows and OS X

Still uses TSK tools, Linux distro tools and other software tools to analyze a drive, partition or file

Continues to be free

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Comments About Autopsy

AFB helps organize a forensic analysis

Don't need to know much about TSK and other command line tools However, in certain situations, such knowledge is useful

Good at timeline analysis

Describes what files were created, modified, accessed and changed in an orderly way

Good at searching and displaying context around search terms in readable format

Rendering is marginal

But 3rd party apps can be configured for better rendering

As new TSK and other free cyber forensics tools become available, they have been selectively integrated into Autopsy



More About Autopsy

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Autopsy's Changing Focus

TSK and Autopsy focus on forensic analysis of computer mass storage. E.g.,

Magnetic disks

SSDs

USB drives

SD drives

Slowly, Autopsy has evolved to help forensic analysis of networks, journals, dynamic memory and mobile devices

Other Forensic Software of Note

But there are a Number of Others

- EnCase (Guidance Software → OpenText) [.E01]

 Used to be the most used
- Forensic ToolKit (FTK) (Access Data) [.001] Used a lot by the U.S. Federal Government
- X-Ways Forensics (*X-Ways Forensics*) [.dd] WinHex is their hex editor
- ProDiscover (ProDiscover) [.eve]
 ProDiscover Basic version is free
- Oxygen Forensics Detective (Oxygen Forensics)

 Started by focusing on smart phones
- Magnet AXIOM software (Magnet Forensics)

Started by focusing on smart phones. The newest of these forensic tools

Comments

All of the above now have suites of <u>proprietary</u> tools They are all <u>good</u>. They are all <u>expensive</u>.

So What About Autopsy?

Autopsy is based upon integrated command line tools and scripts of

TSK + Linux distro tools + other open-source forensic tools

Non-proprietary

Mostly publicly licensed and open source

Not always as up-to-date as the commercial software

Rather slow

Poor rendering

Free

Autopsy seems to be evolving, albeit slowly

Workflow and Features of Autopsy

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Autopsy Workflow

Create a Case

A case is a container for one or more data sources

A case must be created before data can be analyzed

Add Data Source(s)

One or more data sources are added to the case.

Data sources include disk images and data files

Analyze with Ingest Modules

Ingest modules operate in the background to analyze the data

Manual Analysis

User navigates the interface, file contents and ingest module results to identify the evidence.

Interesting items can be tagged for later reporting and analysis

Report Generation

User initiates a final report based on selected tags or results



Autopsy: Creating a Case

Create a Case

Create a case using either the *Case* > *New Case* menu item or using the splash screen when you start Autopsy

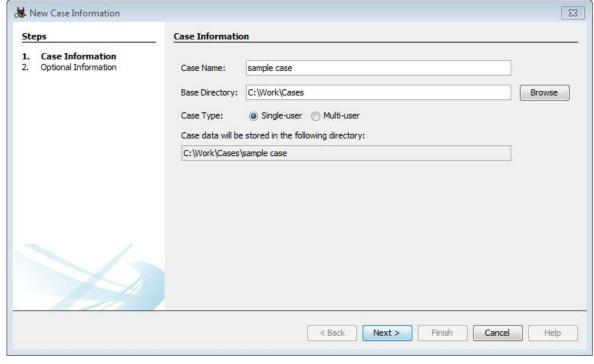


Create a Case

You will now begin the New Case Wizard Enter a Case Name in the first screen

The other information can typically be left to their

defaults

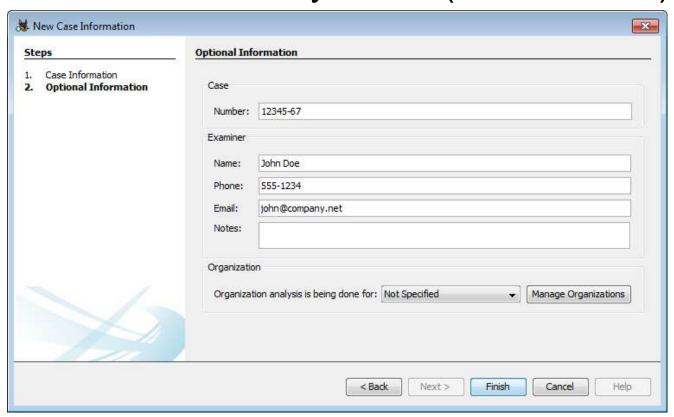


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Create A Case

Provide a Case Number

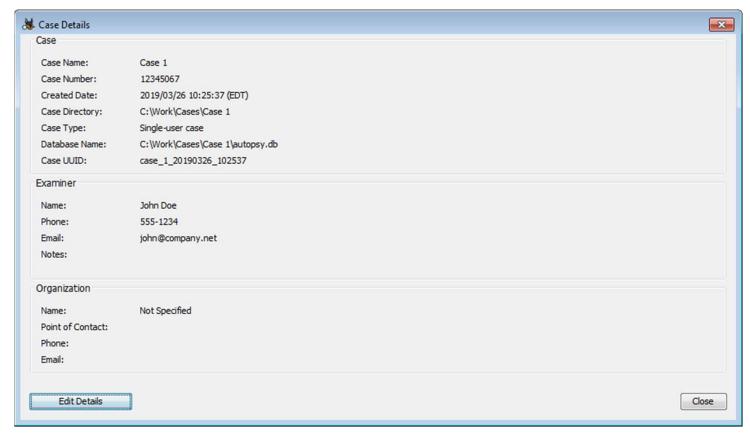
Provide information about yourself (the examiner)



Case Overview

Case Details

You can get the Case Details by using the *Case* > *Case*Details menu item

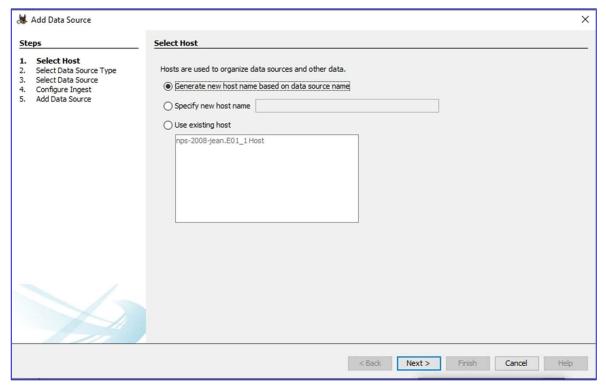


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Autopsy: Add Data Source(s)

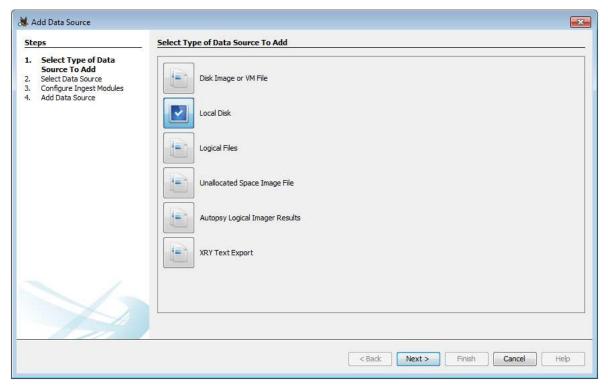
After you create a case, it automatically prompts you to select a host

Choose the default option



After you create a case, it automatically prompts you to add a data source

You first need to select the type of data source



You will then be prompted for the data source

File: Provide file location

Local disk: Select disk

Note that Autopsy supports the following disk formats:

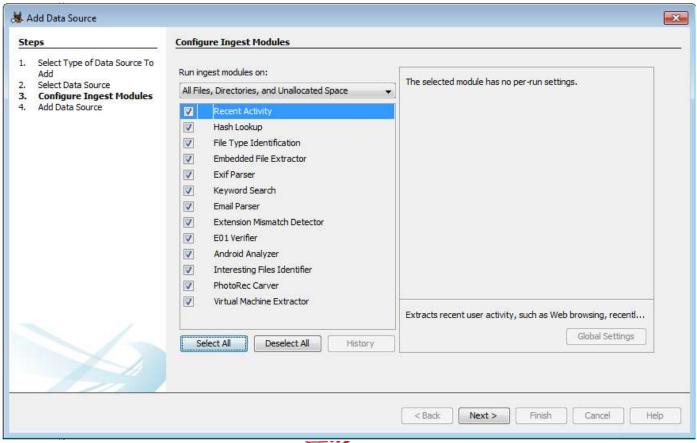
Raw image (single or split)

EnCase (.e01)

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Virtual Disk (.vmdk, .vhd)

You will then be prompted with a list of ingest modules to enable

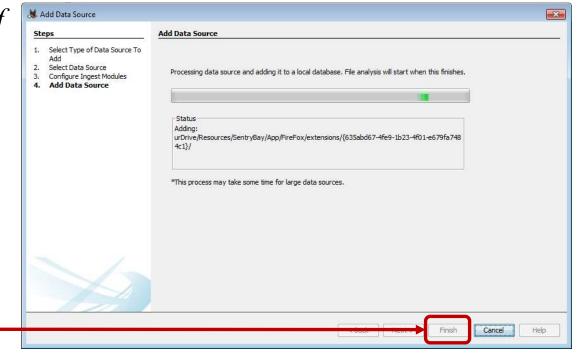


Autopsy then

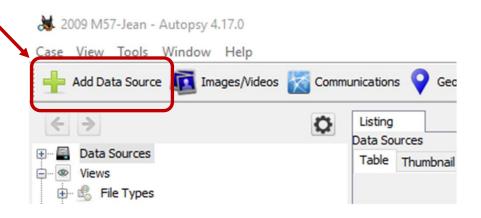
Does a basic examination of the data source

Populates an embedded database with files from the data source

When this is complete, you can continue to the case (by clicking Finish) while the ingest files run in the background



You can then add additional data sources by clicking on the *Add Data Source* icon at the top left of the Autopsy Display



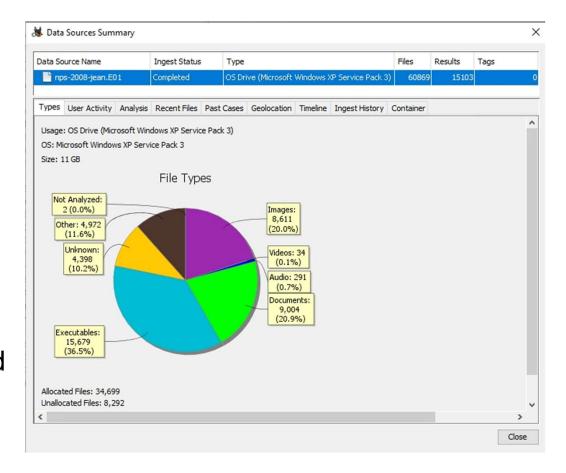
Adding a Data Source

Data Source Summary

Once the data sources have been added and the ingest modules have completed process, you can get a nice summary of the data used in your case by selecting the Case > Data Source Summary menu item

Another way: Select data source in tree viewer and click on *Summary* tab.

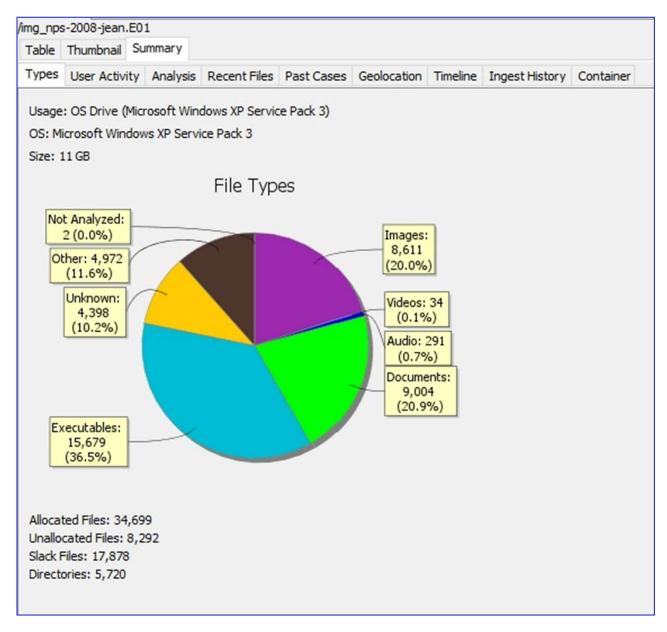
Note that the data is summarized by types (available by using the different tabs). The view starts with the *Types* tab





Data Source Summary Types Tab

The *Types* tab shows counts of different file types found in the data source.

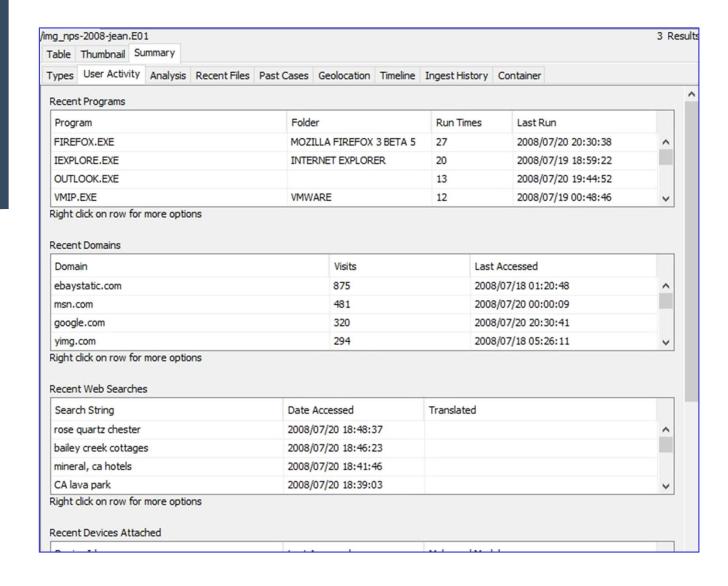




Data Source Summary User Activity Tab

The *User Activity* tab shows the most recent results found in the data source.

You can right click on a row to navigate directly to the corresponding result.

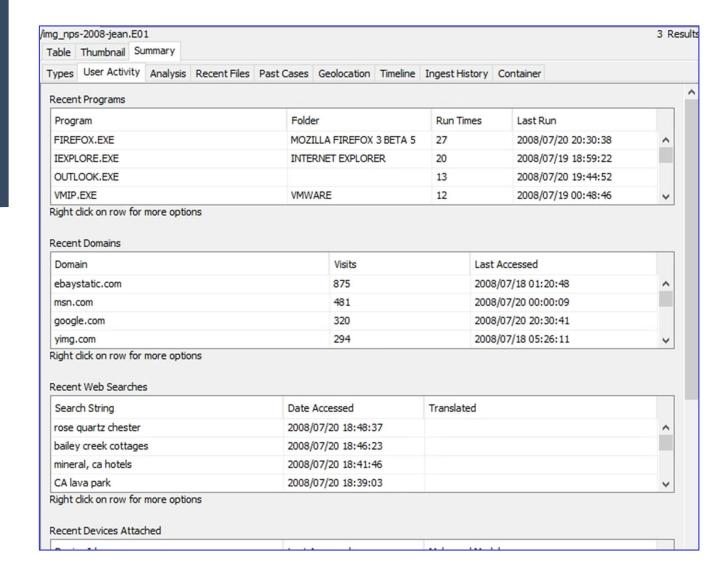




Data Source Summary Recent Files

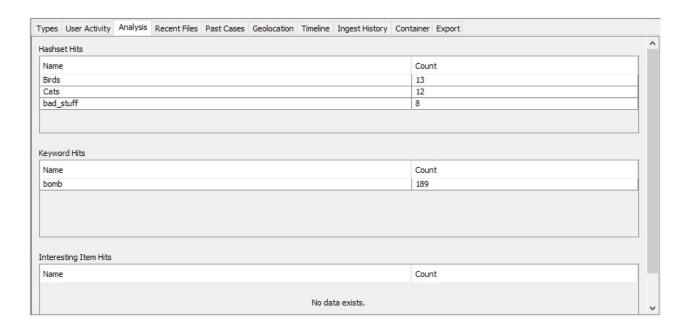
The *Recent Files* tab shows information on the most recent files open and downloaded.

You can right click on a row to navigate directly to the corresponding result.



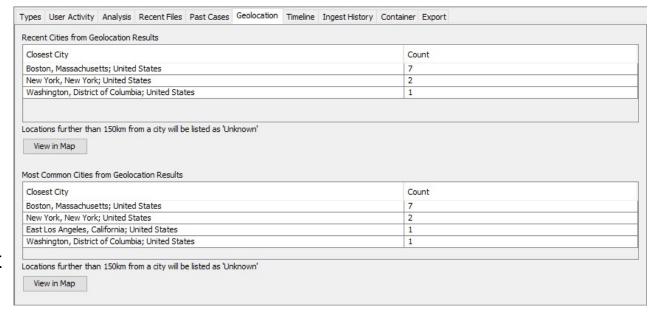


Data Source Summary Analysis & Geolocation



The *Analysis* tab shows the sets with the most results from the *Hash Lookup*, *Keyword Search* and *Interesting Files Identifier* Modules

The *Geolocation* tab uses the coordinates from geolocation results to find the nearest city for each and displays the most recent cities and most common cities.

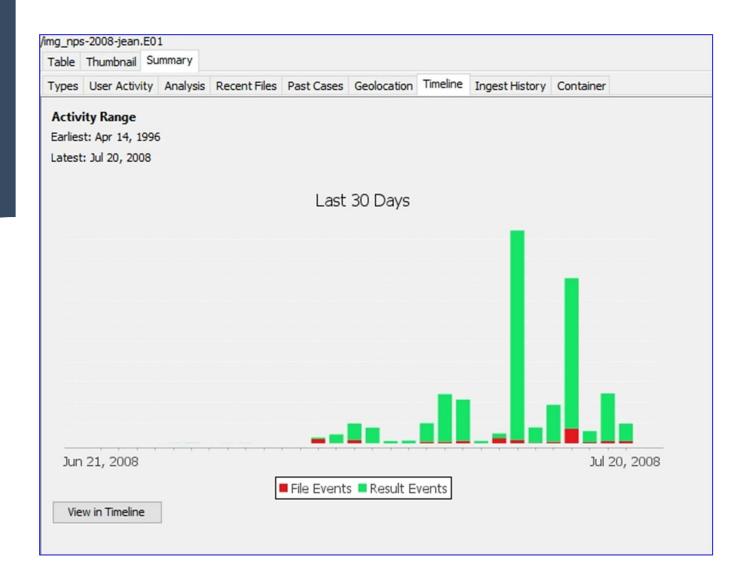




Data Source Summary Timeline

The *Timeline* tab shows a simplified version of the Timeline Viewer.

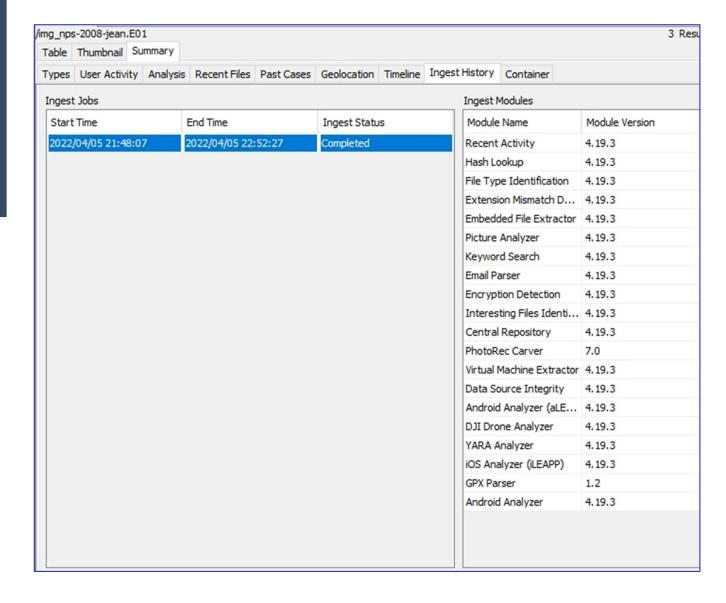
It will show events for the last 30 days of activity and give the first and last dates of activity.





Data Source Summary Ingest History

The *Ingest History* tab shows which ingest modules have been run on the data source and the version of each module.





Autopsy: Analyzing with Ingest Modules

Autopsy's Plug-in Architecture

Autopsy has a plug-in architecture that can extend its functionality

"Ingest modules" can be written by the Autopsy team or 3^{rd} party individuals

Some modules are included with Autopsy installation But several others have been developed. Some references:

https://wiki.sleuthkit.org/index.php?title=Autopsy_3rd_Party_Modules

https://github.com/CarlosLannister/awesome-autopsy-plugins



Ingest Modules

Ingest modules analyze data in a data source

They parse the file contents

They do the analysis

These plug-ins typically run in the background with a status bar on the lower left showing their progress

Examples of ingest modules:

Keyword searching

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Web artifact extraction

Email parser



Ingest Modules

They can be executed in one of two ways:

Immediately after you add a data source

By right-clicking on a data source from the tree in the main interface and choosing "Run Ingest Modules"

©

Ingest Modules

Here is the Ingest Module window that will be displayed using either the two methods described in the last slide

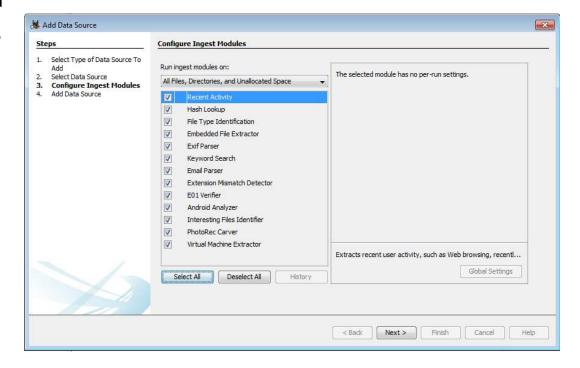
Note that the middle panel allows you to choose which ingest modules to run

Note that the right panel provides

A description of the ingest module

The ability to configure the module (when available)

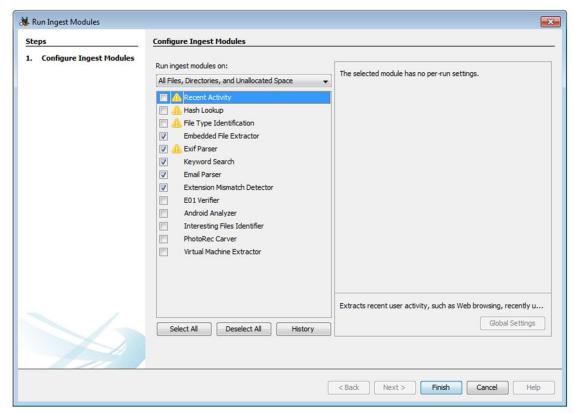
(C)





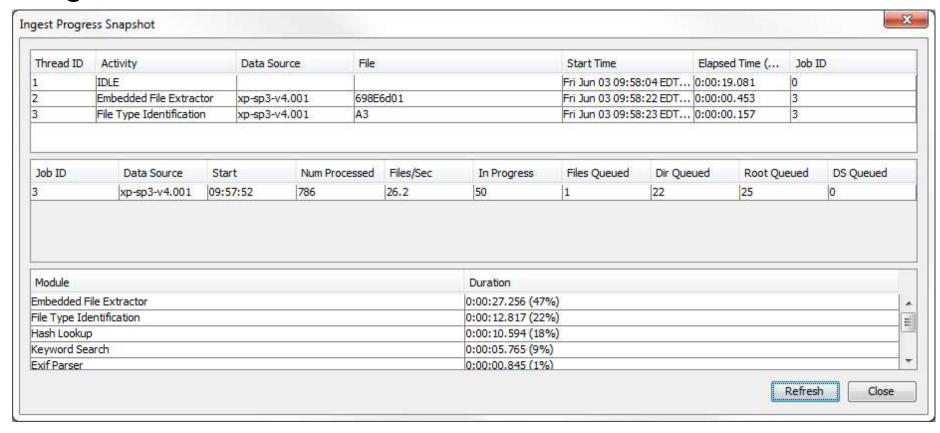
Ingest Module Status

You can tell if an ingest module has already been run for a particular data source if there is a triangular yellow icon with an exclamation point next to the module



Get Ingest Activity

Use the *Help > Get Ingest Progress Snapshot* menu item to get the current status as shown below:



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Manual Analysis

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Autopsy Display

The Autopsy display is partitioned into 3 panels

Tree Viewer

Shows sources of data

Shows file structure of physical memory and file systems

Result Viewer

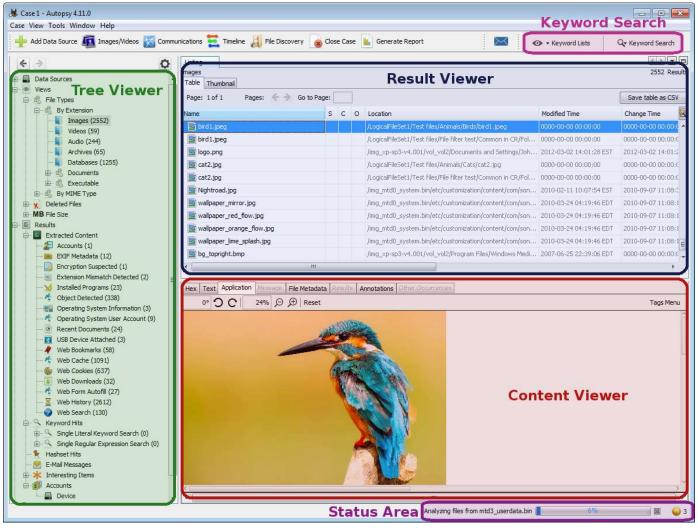
Shows details of whatever is highlighted in the left panel

Content Viewer

Shows details of whatever is highlighted in the upper right panel

Can use tabs to show various details

Autopsy Display



Manual Analysis: Tree Viewer

Use the tree viewer to browse the files in the data source(s) and find saved results from the ingest modules

The tree has five main areas:

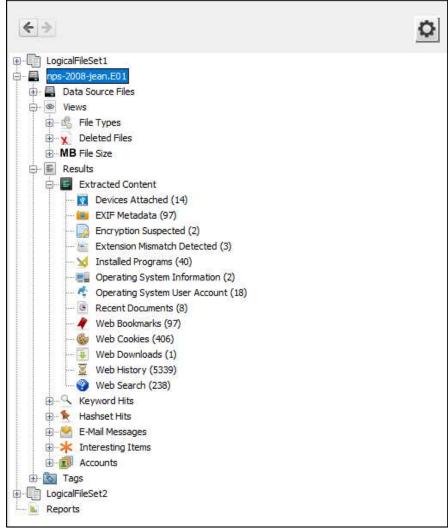
Data Sources

Views

Results

Tags

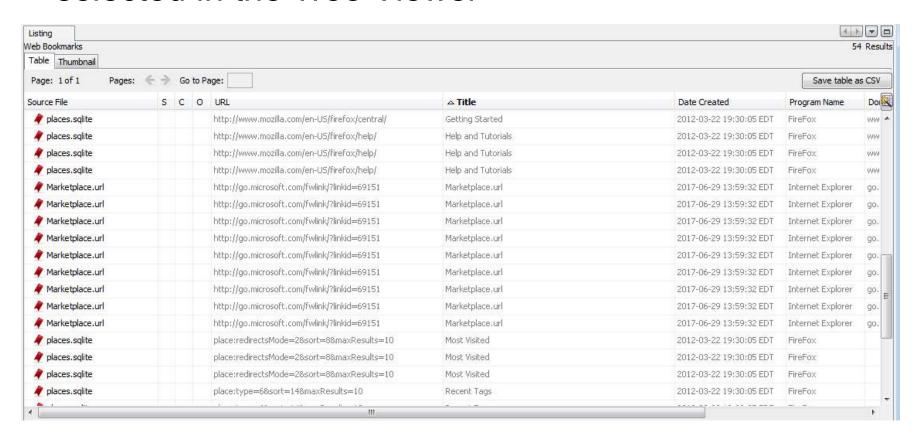
Reports





Manual Analysis: Result Viewer

The Result Viewer shows the contents of what was selected in the Tree Viewer



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Manual Analysis: SCO Columns

The first three columns after a file name in the table viewer are named "S", "C", and "O"

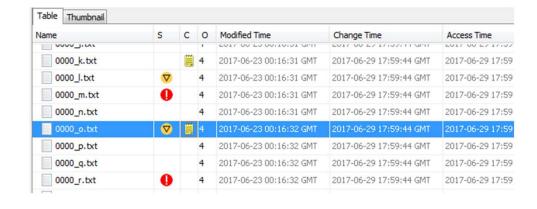
(S)core column – indicates whether the item is interesting or notable

Red icon if the hash for this file has been tagged as notable

Yellow icon is the file has an interesting item match or been tagged with a non-notable tag

(C)omment column – indicates whether the item has a comment in the Central Repository

(O)ther Occurrences column – indicates how many data sources in the Central Repository contain this item



Specialized Viewers

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Specialized Viewers

Autopsy also has a number of specialized viewers available via the top toolbar



Image/Videos Gallery Module

Communications Visualization Tool

Geolocation

Timeline

Discovery

(C)

Image/Video Gallery Module

This viewer has been designed to aid in investigations involving images and videos

It offers the following features beyond the normal thumbnail viewing available in other parts of Autopsy

Groups images by folder or other attributes

This helps the investigator break the large set of images into smaller groups

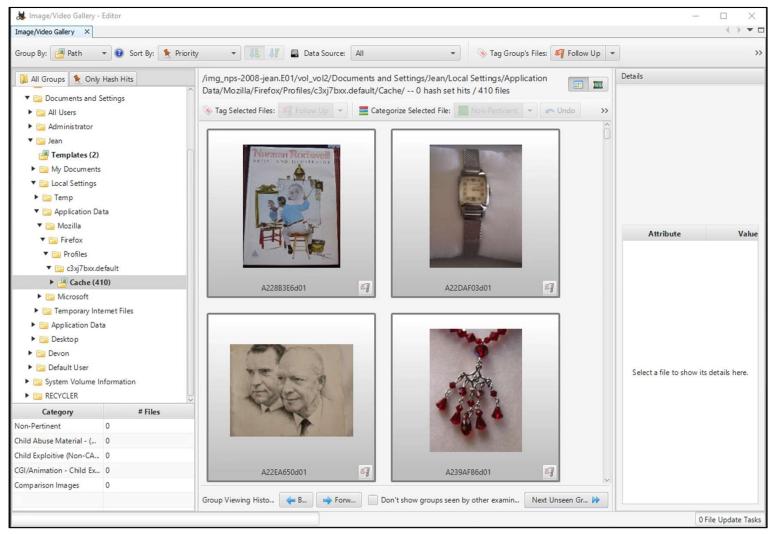
It helps focus the investigation on areas with images of interest

Allows investigator to start viewing images immediately upon adding them to the case

You do not need to wait until the entire image is processed by the ingest modules



Image/Video Gallery



Communications Visualization Tool

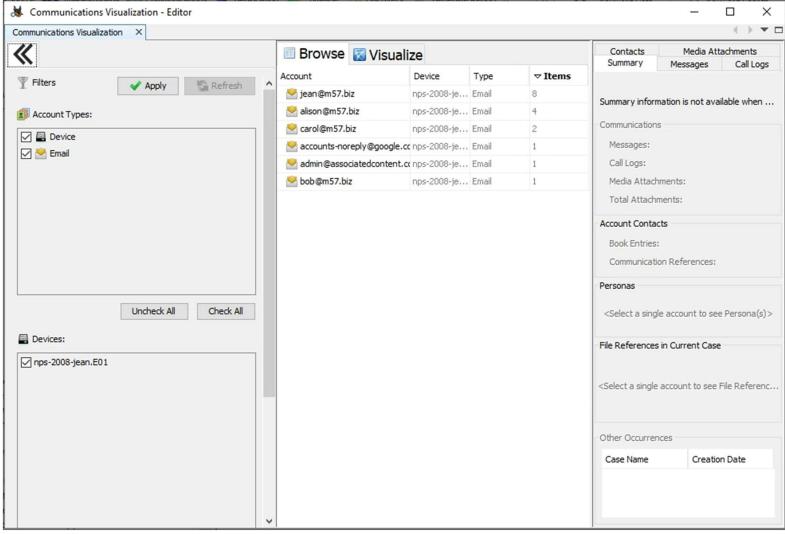
Gives consolidated view of all communication events for the case

Allows an analyst to quickly view communications data such as:

Most commonly used accounts

Communications within a specific time frame

Communication Visualization Tool



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Communication Visualization Tool

From left column, choose:

Which devices to display

Which types of data to display

A time range (optionally)

Middle column displays:

Each account and its

Device

Type

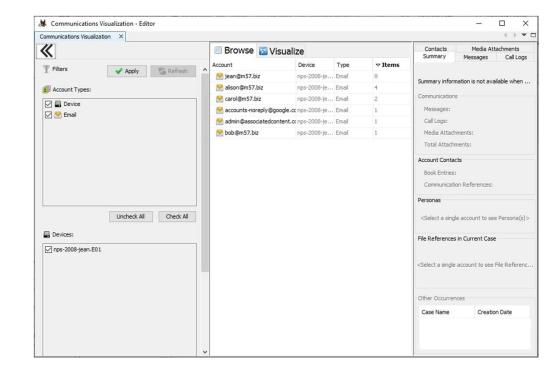
Number of associated messages

Sorted in descended order of frequency

Right column

Details of results selected in middle column

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Communication Visualizer

Right Column Details

Some Key Tabs:

Summary

Displays counts of how many times the account has appear in different interactions in the top section

In the middle it displays the files the account was found in

At the bottom are cases where this account has been discovered

Messages

Displays any messages or call logs associated with he account.

Click on All Messages at the bottom to show specifics about messages

Media Attachments

Shows thumbnails of any media files in messages for that account



Communication Visualizer

Visualizer

The Visualizer tab in the middle manel will show a graph of one or more accounts selected in the Browse tab.

To start, right click on the first account you want to view (in the Browse tab). There are two options

Add selected Account to Visualization

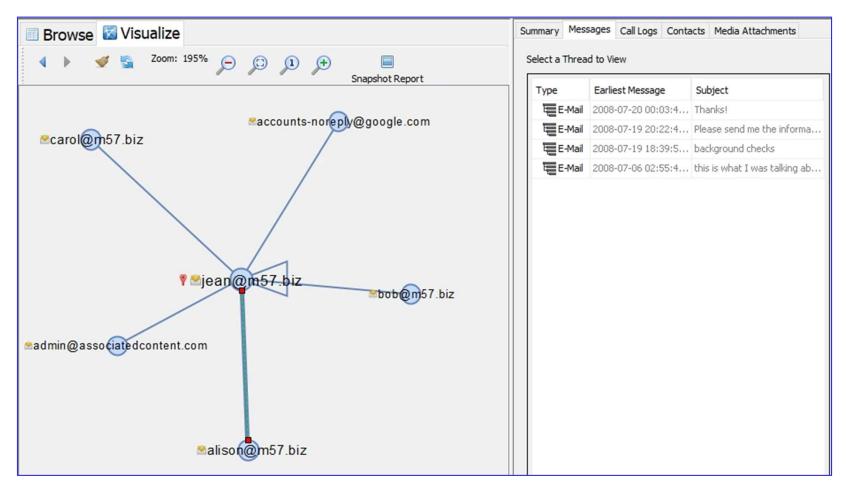
Add this account and its connections to the graph

Visualize Only Selected Account

Clears the graph and only displays the connections for this account

Communication Visualizer Visualizer

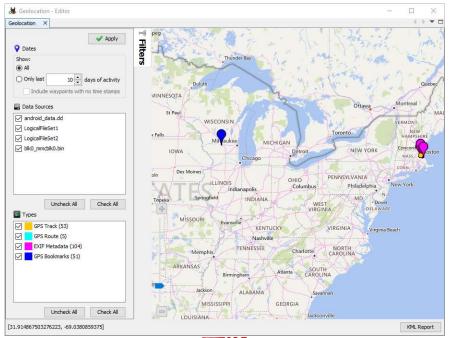
- Click on Node to see communications involving that account
- Click on link to see communications between the two entities
- Click Snapshot Report to create an HTML report with the snapshot included



The Geolocation viewer shows artifacts that have longitude and latitude attributes

They are marked on the map

Offline map data resources are available



You can move the map by clicking and dragging Different type of markers (called waypoints) are displayed in different colors

Key is available in lower left of viewer

You can filter based on:

(C)

Timeframe

Data Source

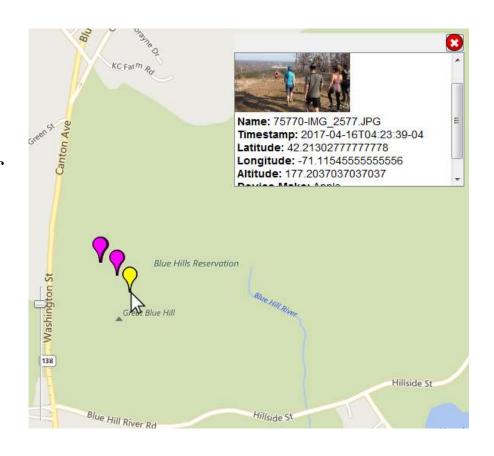
Details

Left-clicking on waypoint will give you details on a waypoint

The data will be different depending upon type of waypoint.

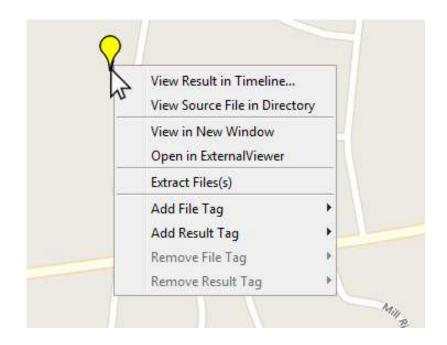
Here is a waypoint
associated with an
image from the Picture
Analyzer Module

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Details

Right-clicking on waypoint will give you a similar menu as you would see in the Result Viewer



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Timelines

Lawyers who work with Cyber Forensic Investigators really really want to know

What event happened

When it happened

Timing relative to other events

Autopsy has timeline analysis

Functions specific to timelines

Easy to understand

Can filter on

Times of interest

Text

Relation to other events

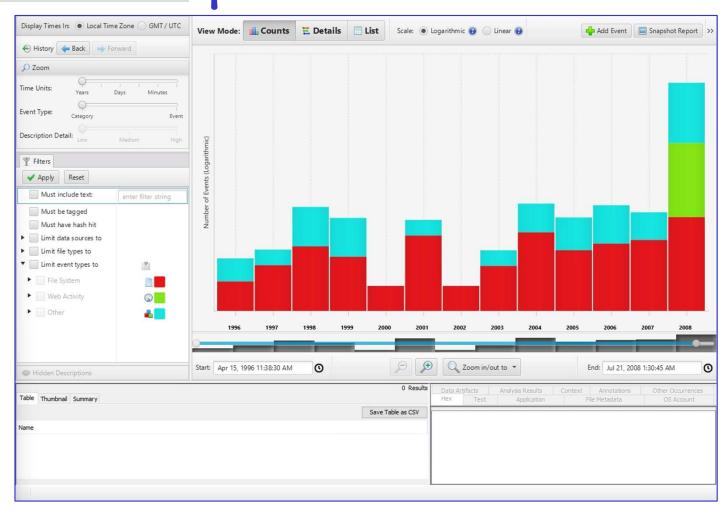
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Timeline Display

There are three primary views:

- Counts (default)
- Details
- List

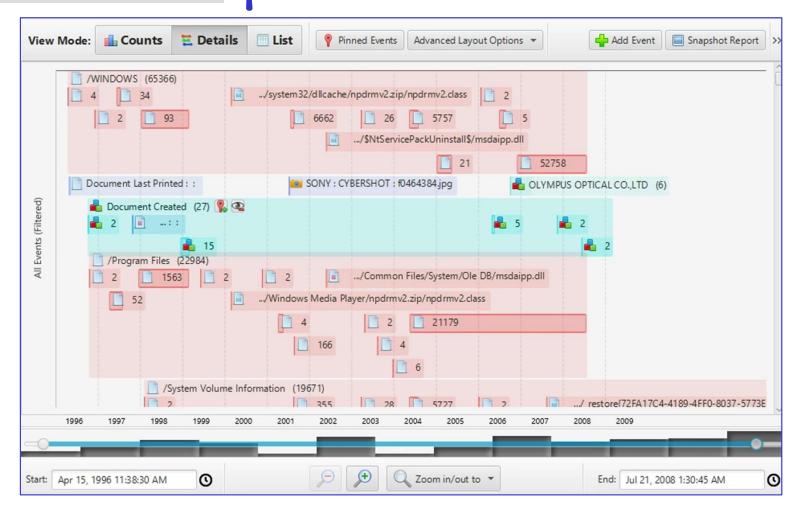


Timeline Display

Details view:

Shows information on events that happened in a specific time period

Best when you've filtered down to a small window in time



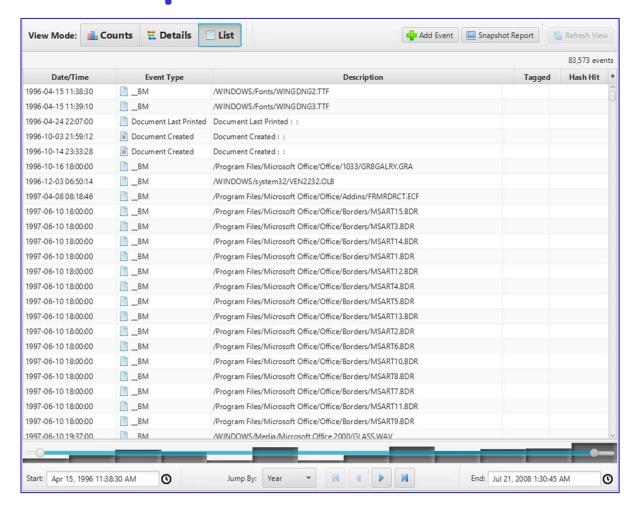
Timeline Display

List view:

Shows every event in the order it occurred.

Can be helpful to see which other events happened in the same time frame as an event of interest.

Best used after you've filtered down to a limited number of events.



Discovery

The discovery tools shows images, videos, documents or domains that match a set of filters configured by the user.

You can choose how to group and order your results in order to see the most relevant data first.

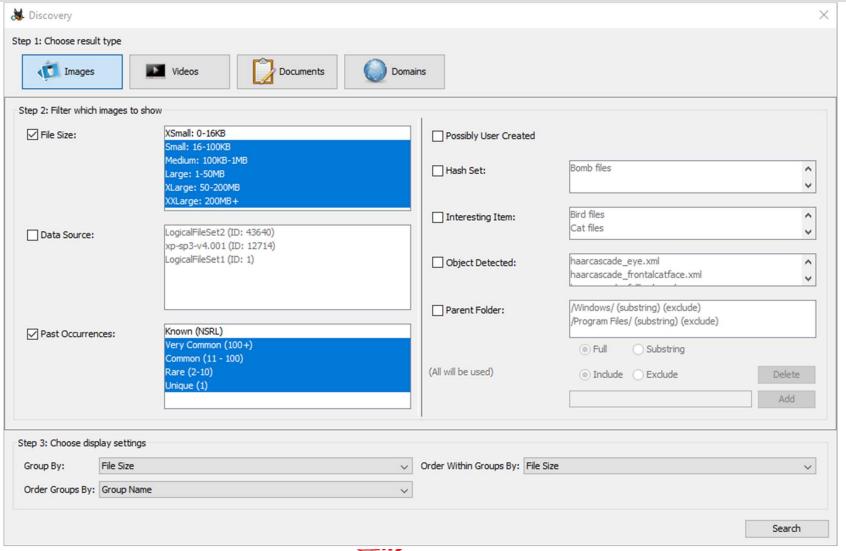
There are three basic steps you need to follow to set up the Discovery tool:

Choose the result type

Set up filters

Choose how to group and sort the results

Discovery





Report Generation

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Including Items in a Report

Tagging (aka bookmarking) allows you to create a reference to a file or object and

Easily find it later

©

Include it in a report



Tagging Items

When an interesting item is discovered, the user can tag it by right-clicking the item and selecting one of the tag options

When you tag an item identified from the Views section of the tree viewer, you can add a file tag

When you tag an item identified from the Results section of the tree viewer, you have a choice of adding a

File tag (use when the file is of interest)

Result tag (use when the result is of interest)

Tag Names

There are several default tag names:

Bookmark
default tag for marking files of interest

CAT-1 through CAT-5 for law enforcement use

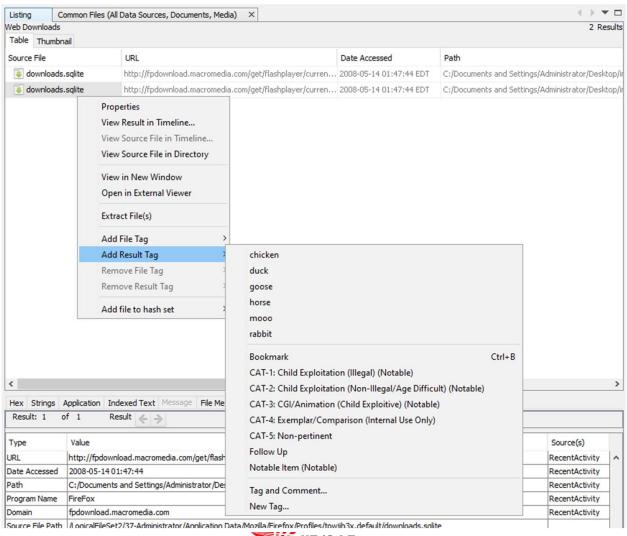
Follow-up default tag for marking files to follow up on

Notable item

default tag for indicating that an item should be marked as notable in the central repository

You can also create custom tag names

Add a Result Tag



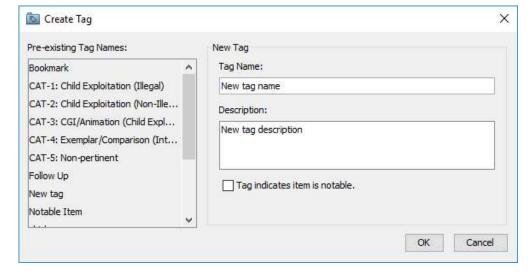
(C)

Creating a Tag

Tag and Comment

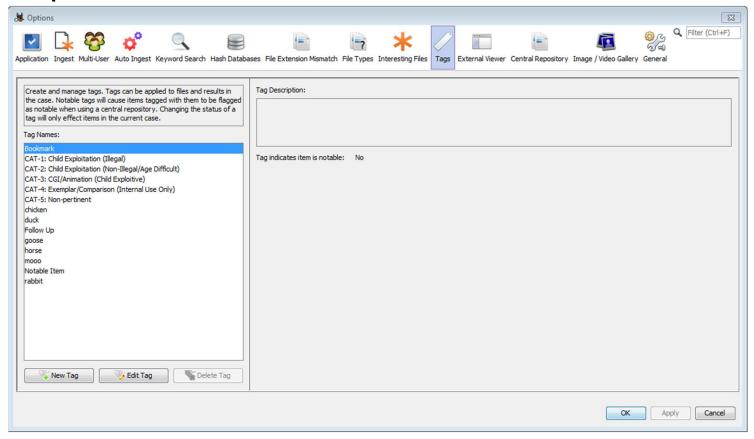
New Tag





Managing Tags

The list of tags can be edited through the Tags tab on the Options menu



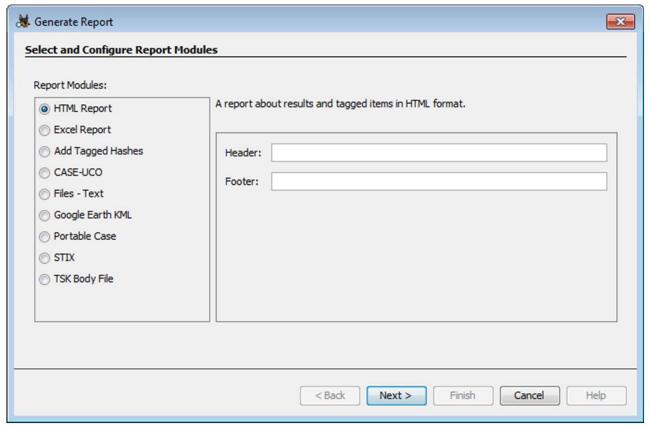
The report modules allow the user to extract key information from a case in a variety of formats

We will walk through a scenario where a report in HTML format is generated

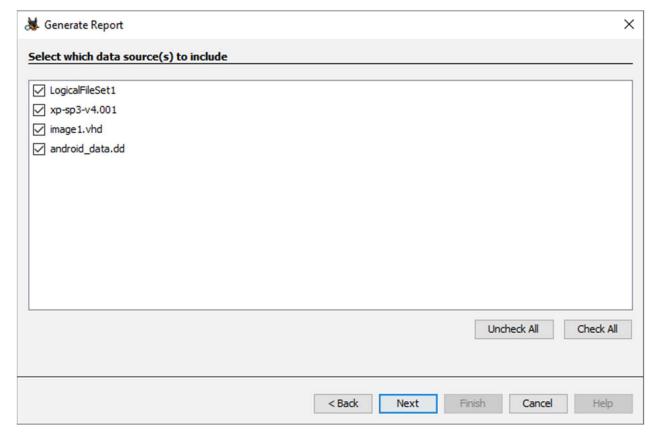
©

Triggering Report Generation

Click on the *Generate Report* above the Result Viewer You will be presented with the following pop-up window



After entering the desired header and footer, you will be asked which data sources to include



©

You then select the data you want to report on by choosing:

Result types

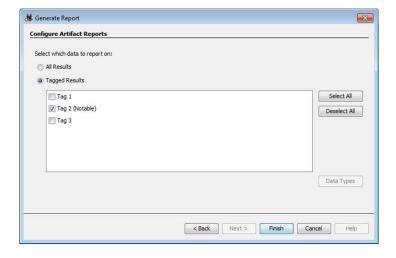
Must select "All Results", then "Choose Result Types"

Tagged Results

Choice of all tagged results or specific tagged results

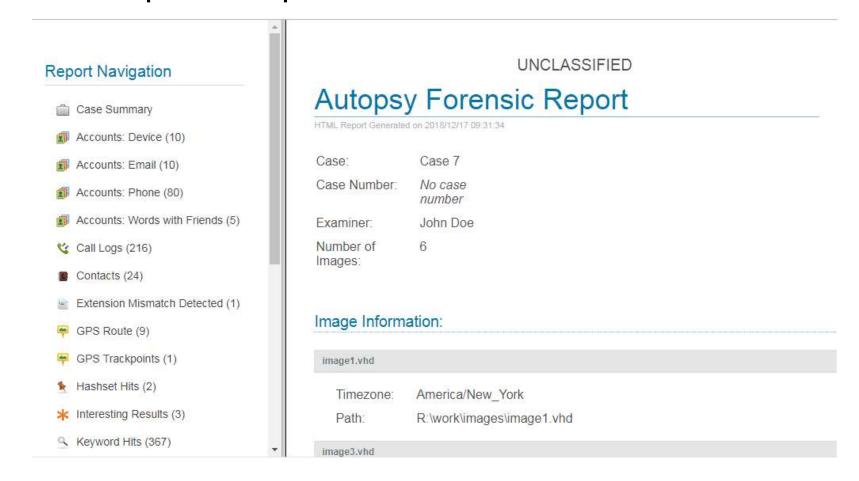
You can choose which tags to include in the report







The completed report would look similar to this:





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