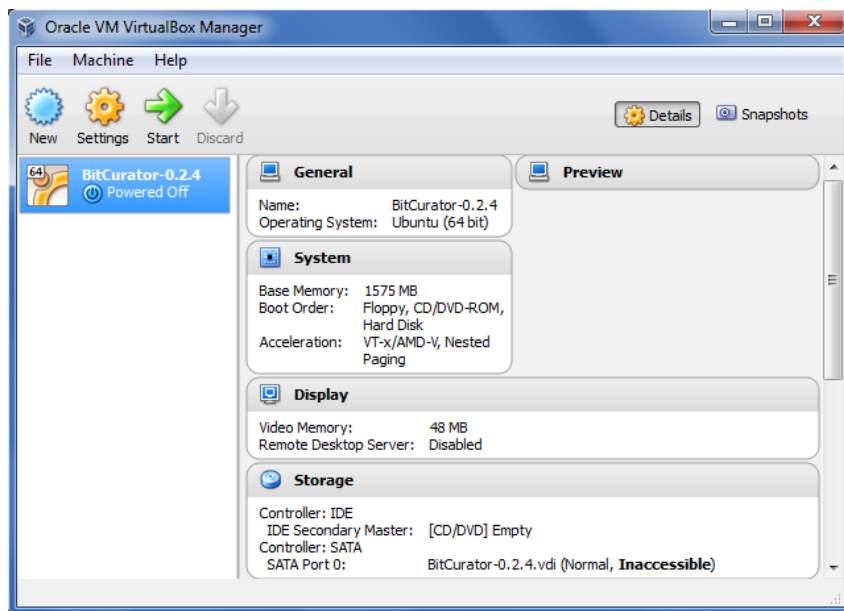


Lab Exercise – Using BitCurator

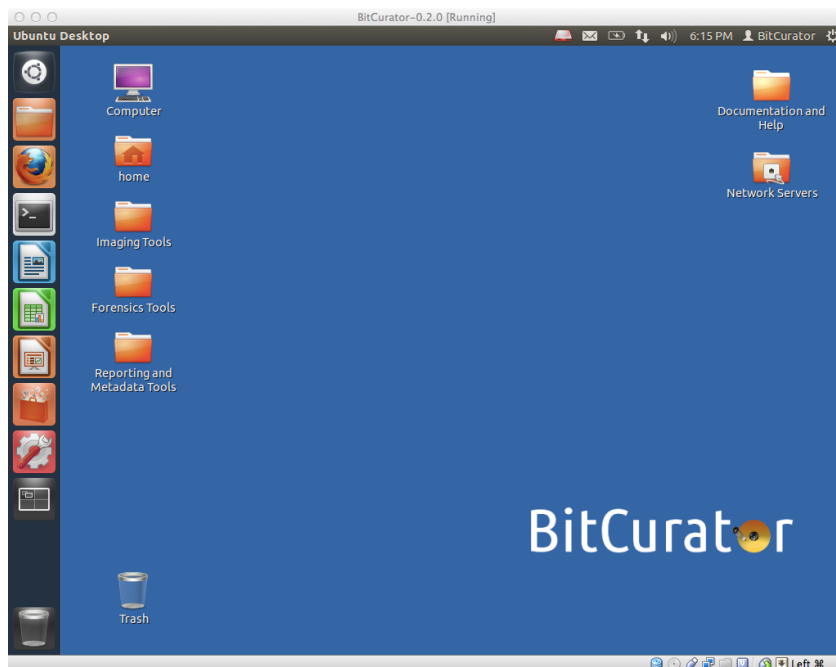
Lead Instructors: Cal Lee and Kam Woods

Start the BitCurator Virtual Machine

Clicking on the green “Start” arrow in the Manager screen will start the BitCurator environment. You’ll see a startup screen, and then the BitCurator environment will boot and automatically log in.



Once the VM has fully booted up, you should see something like this:

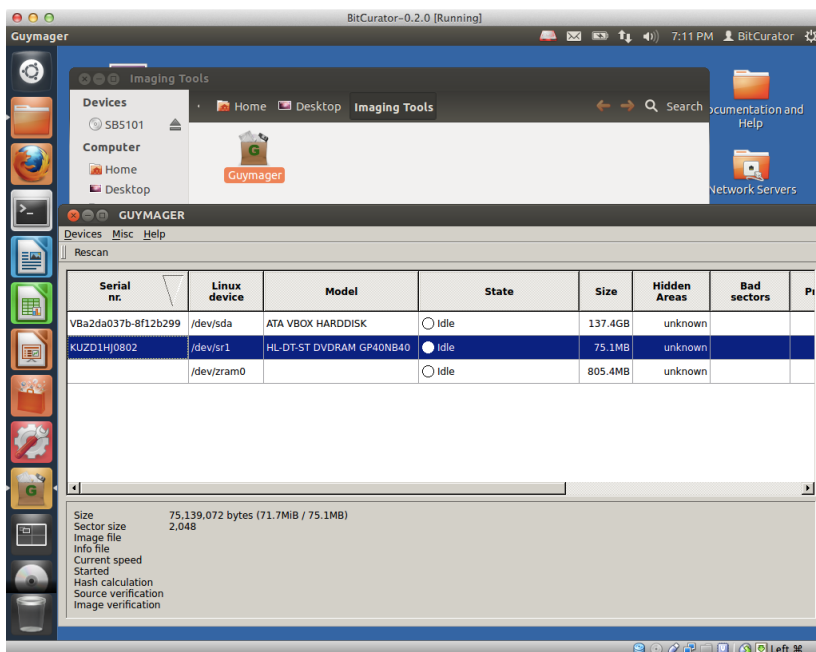


If you see any messages at the top, you can just ignore them.

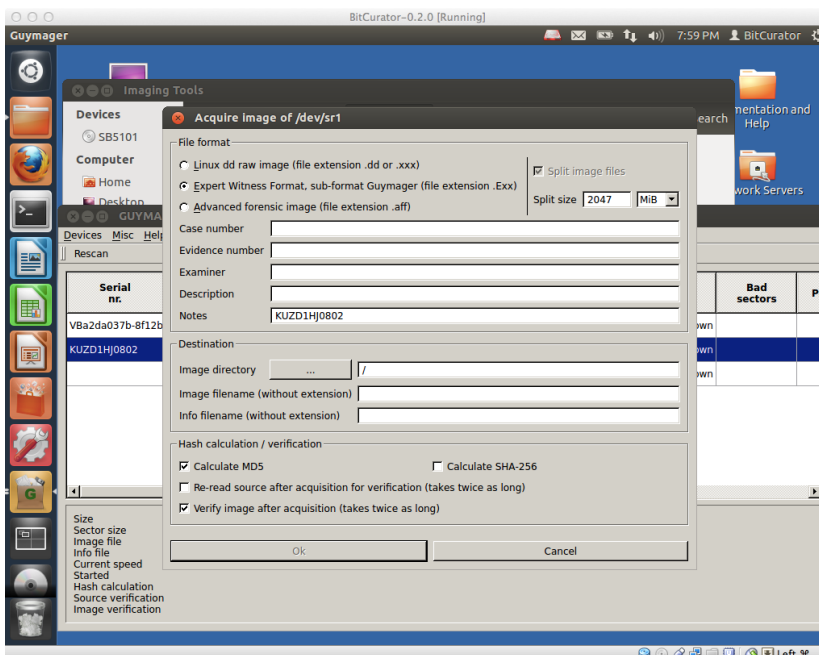
Imaging a disk

We'll just be looking at the functionality of Guymager. We will **not** be creating any disk images in this lab exercise today.

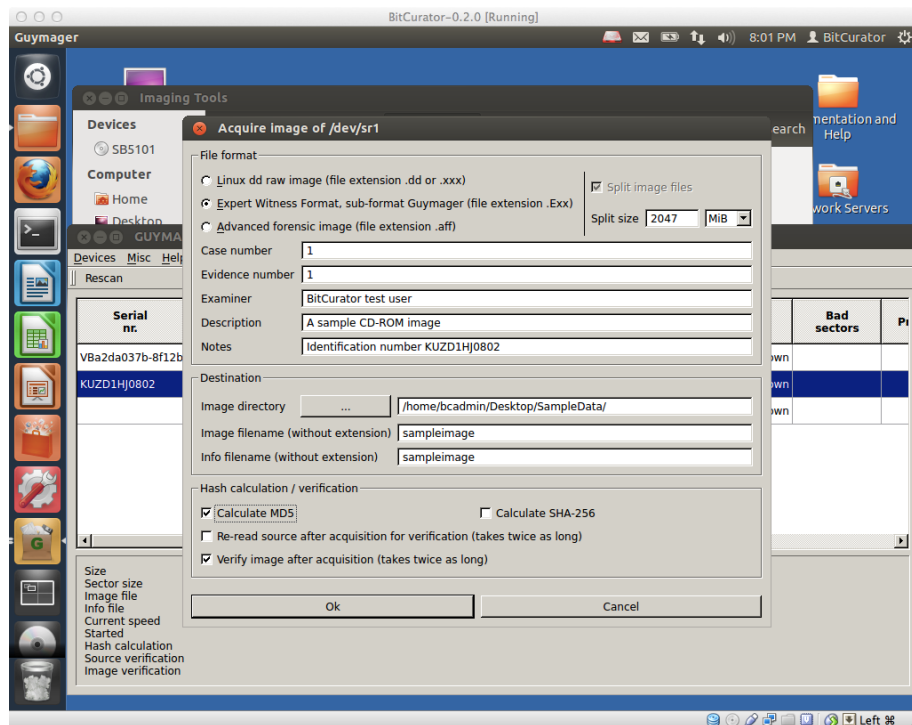
Double-click on “Imaging Tools” on the Desktop, and then double-click on Guymager. Note in the figure below that Guymager is showing three drives and one has been selected.



Right-click on one of the available drives (you may only see one), and click on “Acquire image” in the menu. You’ll see a new dialog window that will prompt you to enter some acquisition metadata.



Select an image format (leave it on Expert Witness Format, which is the default) and enter some other metadata. For the “Image directory,” select the place for the resulting disk image to be stored (in this case, the “SampleData” directory that you created earlier on the desktop), name the image, and then click “OK.”



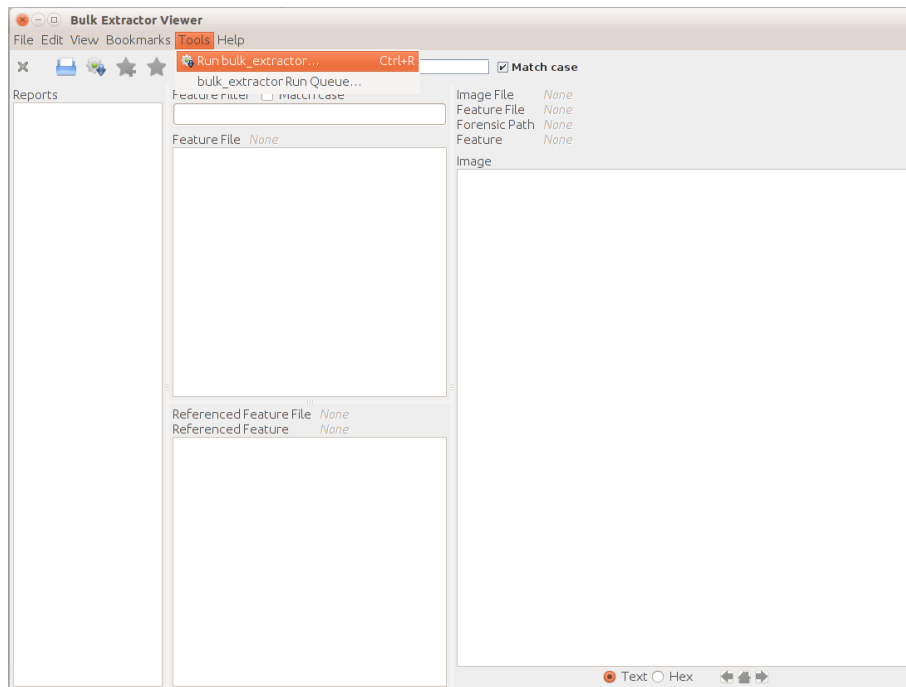
You'll see the main dialog state change to "Acquisition Running". Note that the BitCurator environment runs at a resolution of 1024x768 by default. If you wish to see the whole dialog, just make the window bigger. The resolution should resize automatically.

Cancel the acquisition. As noted above, we won't have time to run the whole imaging process in this lab. Normally, you would wait for the acquisition to finish and see an "OK" message in State.

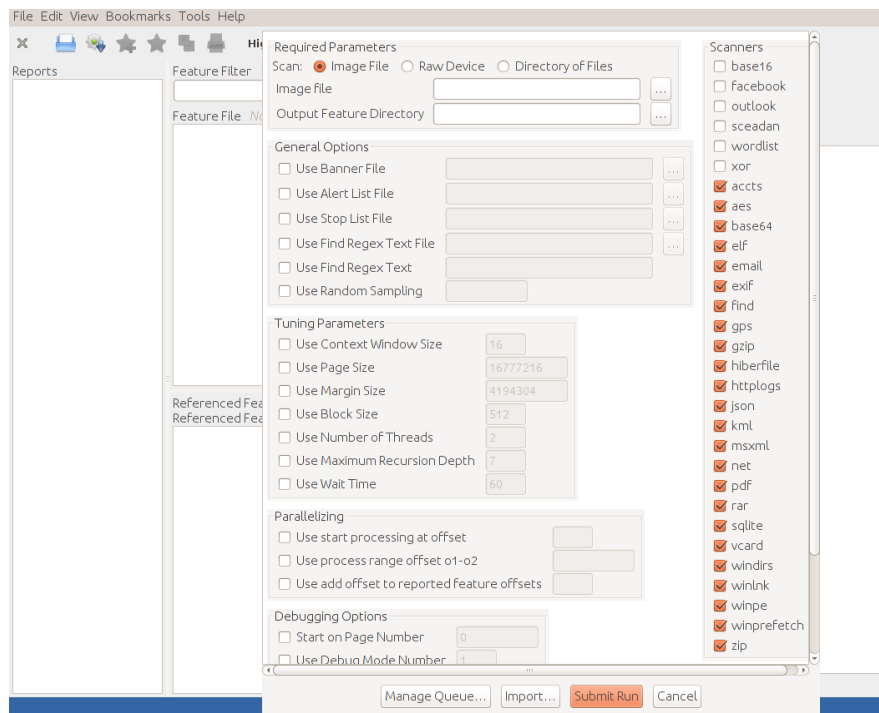
Generating "Feature" (potentially sensitive or personally revealing information) reports with Bulk Extractor

From the desktop, double-click on "Forensics Tools," and then double-click on the "Bulk Extractor Viewer" icon. This will launch the GUI front-end to Bulk Extractor, a tool to identify various "features" contained within the bitstream extracted from the source media.

Click on the "Tools" menu in the top of the window, and select "Run Bulk Extractor."

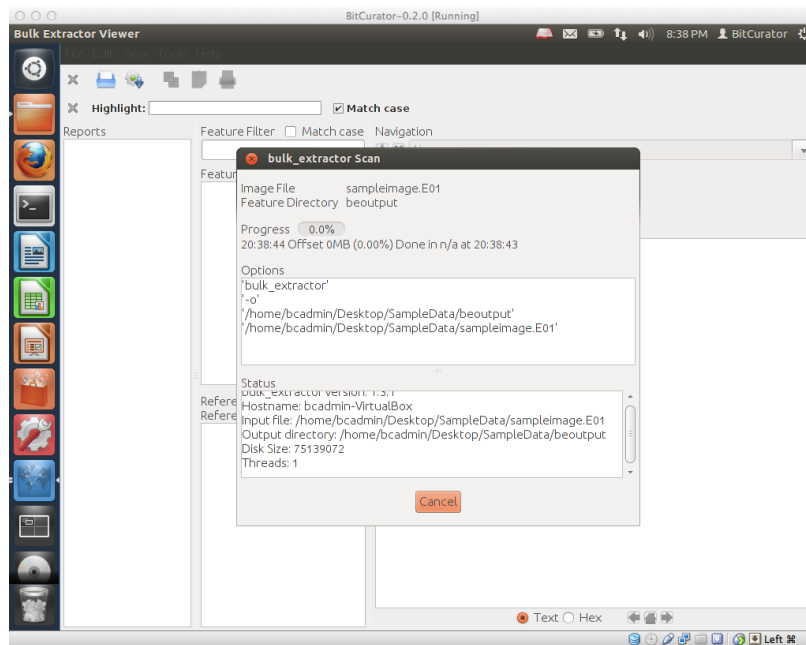


This will bring up a dialog that allows you to select which scanners to run, and where to generate the report directory.

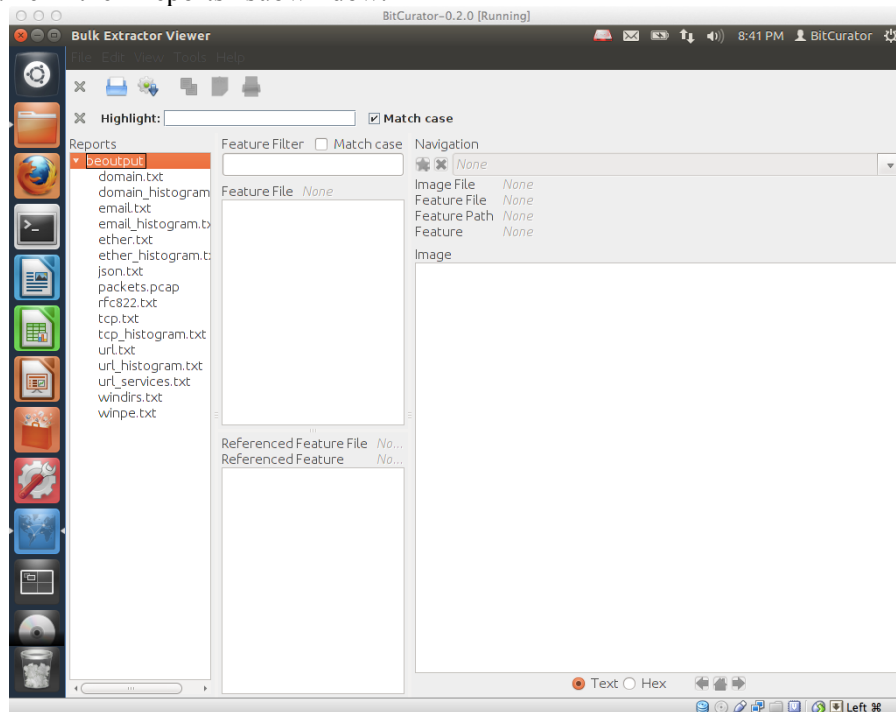


Using the “...” icons to the right of the “Image File” and “Output Feature Directory” text boxes, you can select the image file you’ve produced and tell Bulk Extractor to output the report in a new directory “beoutput,” within the SampleData directory you made previously on the desktop.

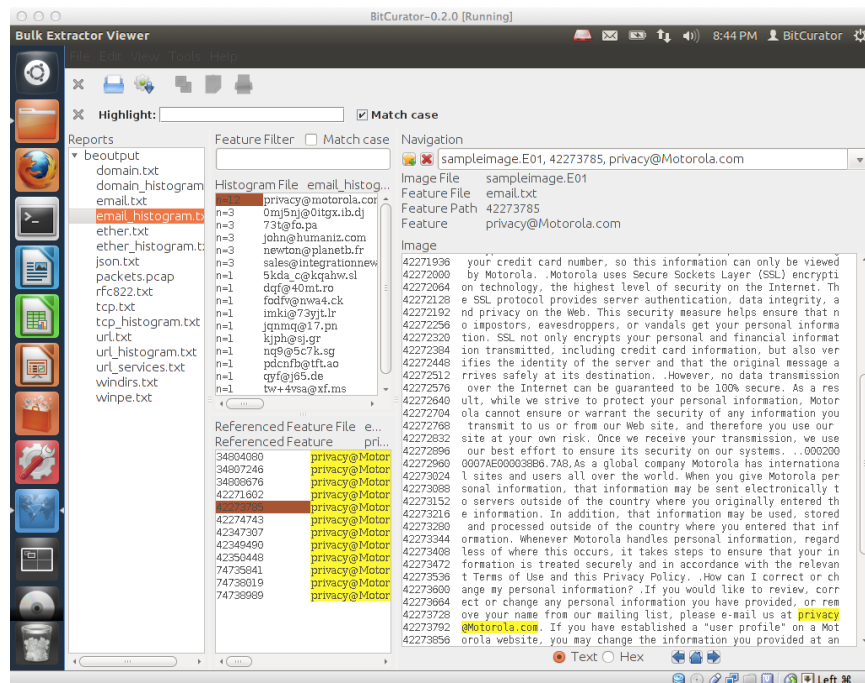
Click on “Submit Run” at the bottom of the dialog and then see a new dialog appear, indicating the progress made so far.



Once the process has completed, the report directory will be available in the relevant location (in our case, the directory “beoutput” within SampleData). The features identified can also be viewed in the main Bulk Extractor Viewer window, by clicking on the report name in the “Reports” subwindow.



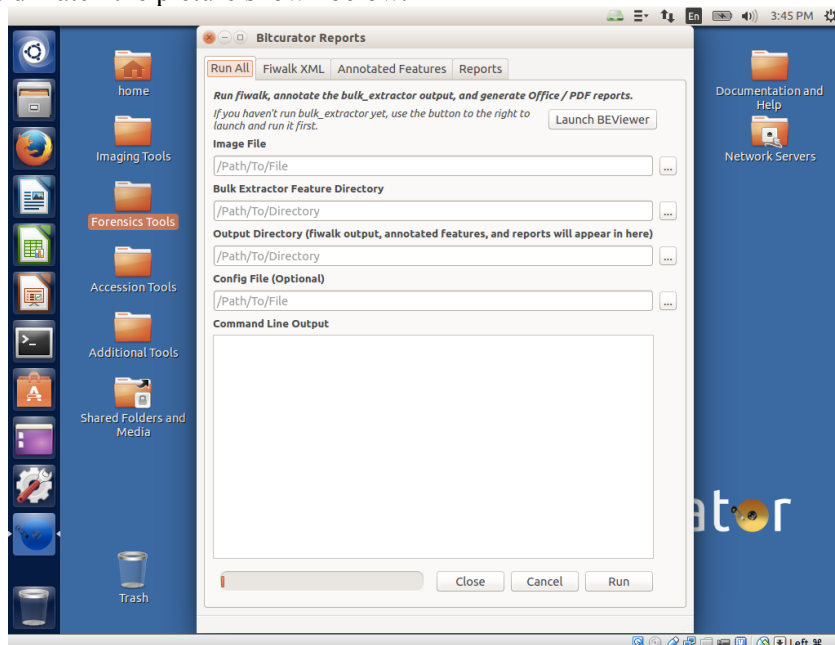
Individual features may be examined, for example by selecting the histogram file associated with a particular feature type (in the example above, emails), clicking on a particular instance of a feature in the “Referenced Feature” window, and examining that feature in the Image map on the right.



BitCurator Reporting Tool

Bulk Extractor extracts these features from a disk image by scanning the raw bitstream – not by parsing the filesystem. In order to output filesystem information, you need to run a tool called **fiwalk**. To determine the folders or files where the features appear (or if they appear on an area of the disk not associated with the filesystem), you need to run a tool called “Identify File Names.” You can also generate various other summaries of the disk’s content. You can perform all of these tasks by using the “Run All” tab in the BitCurator Reporting Tool.

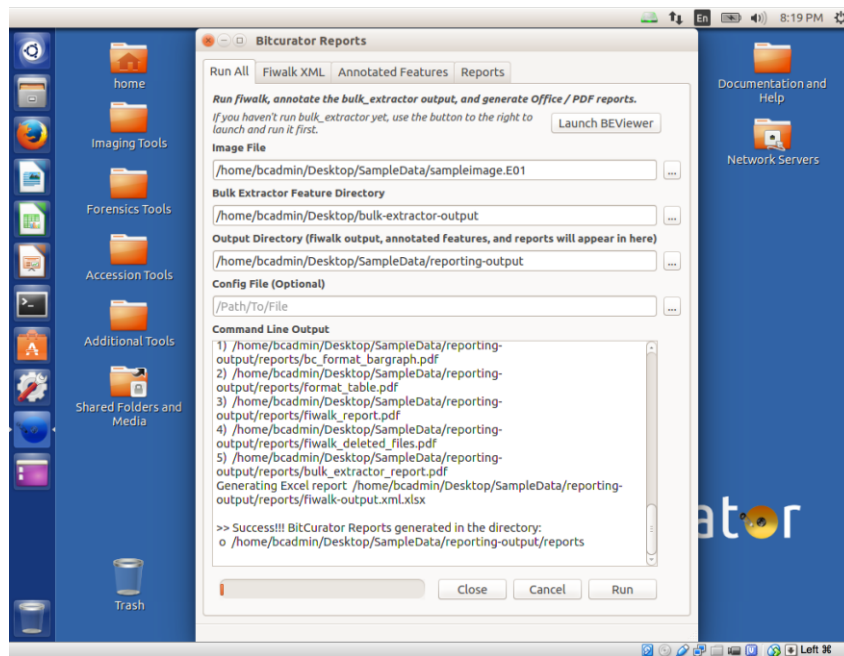
Double-click on the “Forensics Tools” folder, and then double click on the “BitCurator Reporting Tool” launcher. You’ll see a window pop up that should match the picture shown below.



Click on the box with three dots next to the “Image File” entry, and navigate to the sample image (sampleimage.E01) we created in our SampleData directory on the Desktop earlier. The image file you selected should now appear under the “Image File” entry.

Follow the same process for the “Bulk Extractor Feature Directory” entry. You previously created the “bulk-extractor-output” directory within the “SampleData” directory on the desktop.

Finally, assign an output directory for the reports that will be generated. Note that you do not need to click “Create Folder” when selecting this location. Simply navigate to the desired location (in this case, Desktop/SampleData) and type in the name of the folder you wish to store the reports in. Then, click “Save.” Finally, click “Run.”



Once the reporting tool is done, you can navigate to the SampleData folder and view the various outputs and reports.