

AIM: Analysis of forensic images using open source tools like Autopsy and commercial tool: FTK Imager.

THEORY:

Digital forensics is the process of collecting, analyzing, and preserving electronic evidence to investigate and prevent cybercrimes. It involves the extraction and examination of digital artifacts from various devices to reconstruct and understand events.

FTK Imager:

FTK Imager is a forensic imaging tool that creates a forensic copy (image) of a storage device. It captures not only file data but also unallocated space, slack space, and file system metadata, maintaining the integrity of the original data. FTK Imager is crucial for preserving evidence without altering the original content.

Autopsy:

Autopsy is an open-source digital forensics platform used for analyzing disk images and files. It provides a user-friendly interface for investigators to examine artifacts, recover deleted data, and generate comprehensive reports. Autopsy streamlines the process of investigating digital evidence, facilitating a thorough analysis of file systems and uncovering relevant information.

Basic Digital Forensics Process:

1. Identification: Recognize and document potential sources of evidence, such as computers, storage devices, or network logs.
2. Collection: Safely gather electronic evidence, ensuring the preservation of its integrity. FTK Imager plays a vital role in creating forensic images of storage media.
3. Analysis: Utilize tools like Autopsy to examine the acquired data. This involves searching for relevant information, recovering deleted files, and identifying patterns or anomalies.
4. Documentation: Record findings in a detailed and organized manner. Generate reports that summarize the analysis, providing a clear overview of the investigation process and its results.
5. Presentation: Present the findings in a format suitable for legal proceedings. Clear documentation and reports are crucial for communicating the results of the digital forensic investigation effectively.

In essence, digital forensics relies on meticulous processes facilitated by tools like FTK Imager and Autopsy to uncover, analyze, and document electronic evidence, aiding in the resolution of cybercrimes and legal investigations.

Image – The copy of a hard drive that is compressed into one file.

Acquisition – The viewing of the image in a program in order to gather data and information.

Data Compression – When the information from a hard drive or other form of storage is compressed together to take up less space on the computer.

Verification – The information on the image is checked with the original information on the hard drive to make sure nothing was altered.

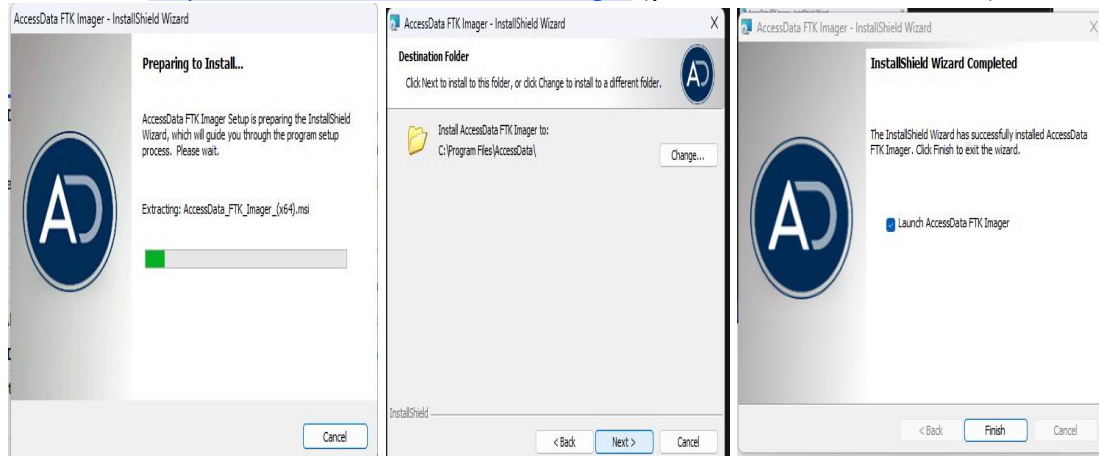
Description :

FTK® Imager is a data preview and imaging tool used to acquire data (evidence) in a forensically sound manner by creating copies of data without making changes to the original evidence. After you create an image of the data, use **Forensic Toolkit® (FTK®)** to perform a thorough forensic examination and create a report of your findings. FTK Imager will:

- **Create forensic images** of local hard drives, CDs and DVDs, thumb drives or other USB devices, entire folders, or individual files from various places within the media.
- **Preview files and folders** on local hard drives, network drives, CDs and DVDs, thumb drives or other USB devices.
- **Preview the contents** of forensic images stored on the local machine or on a network drive.
- **Mount an image for a read-only view** that leverages Windows® Internet Explorer® to see the content of the image exactly as the user saw it on the original drive.
- **Export** files and folders from forensic images.
- See and **recover files that have been deleted** from the Recycle Bin, but have not yet been overwritten on the drive.
- **Create hashes of files** to check the integrity of the data by using either of the two hash functions available in FTK Imager: Message Digest 5 (MD5) and Secure Hash Algorithm (SHA-1).
- **Generate hash reports** for regular files and disk images (including files inside disk images) that you can later use as a benchmark to prove the integrity of your case evidence. When a full drive is imaged, a hash generated by FTK Imager can be used to verify that the image hash and the drive hash match after the image is created, and that the image has remained unchanged since acquisition

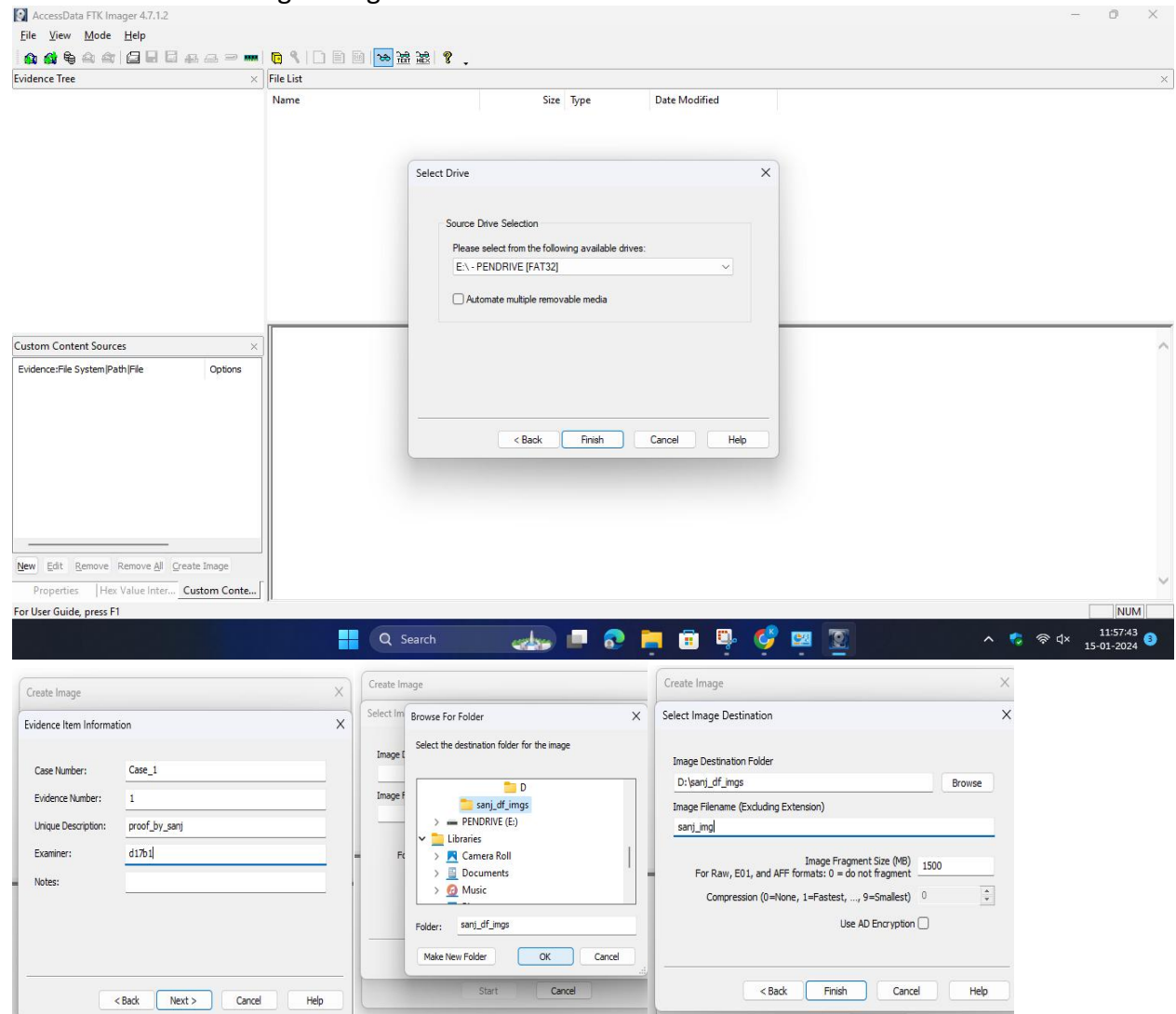
STEPS:

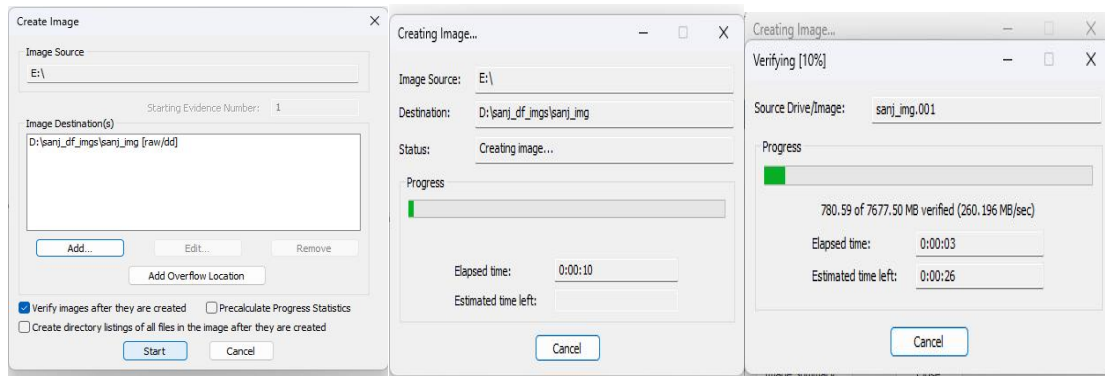
Download <https://www.exterro.com/ftk-imager> (youll have to fill that form)



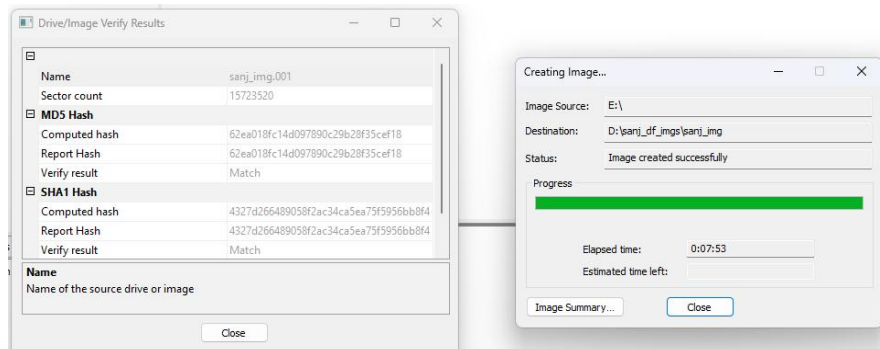
Launch it

File -> Create disk image -> logical drive

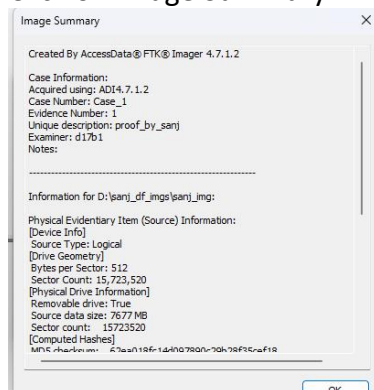




Let it finish:



Click on Image Summary:



MD5 checksum: 62ea018fc14d097890c29b28f35cef18

SHA1 checksum: 4327d266489058f2ac34ca5ea75f5956bb8f418a

Image Information:

Acquisition started: Mon Jan 15 11:59:13 2024

Acquisition finished: Mon Jan 15 12:07:06 2024

Segment list:

D:\sanj_df_imgs\sanj_img.001

D:\sanj_df_imgs\sanj_img.002

D:\sanj_df_imgs\sanj_img.003

D:\sanj_df_imgs\sanj_img.004

D:\sanj_df_imgs\sanj_img.005

D:\sanj_df_imgs\sanj_img.006

Image Verification Results:

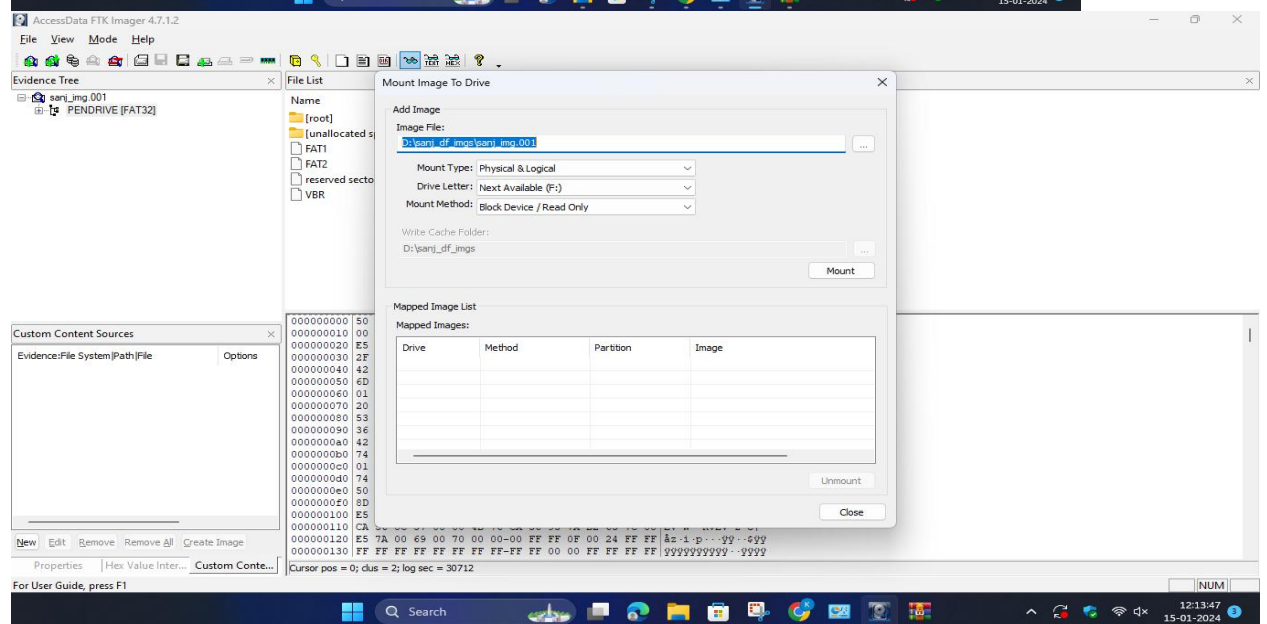
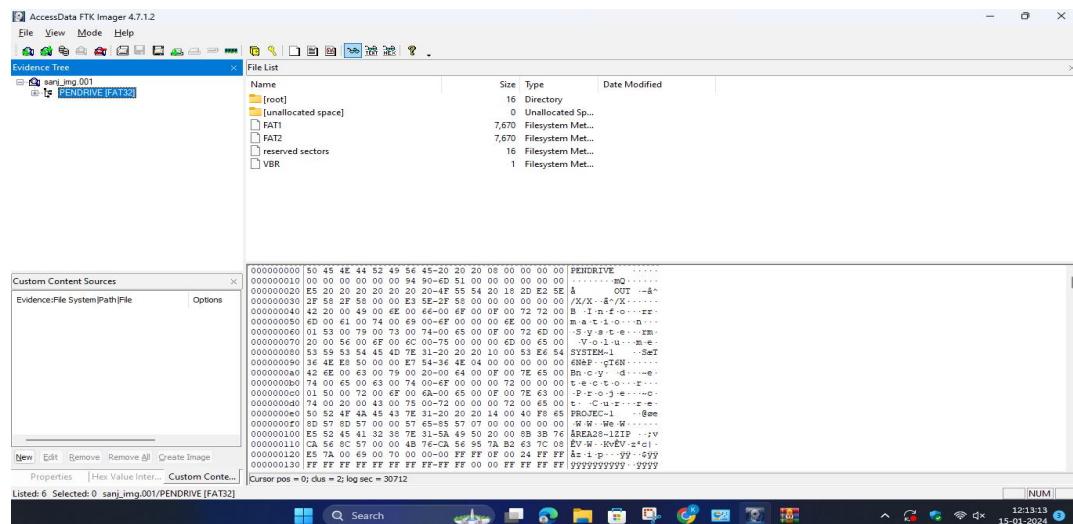
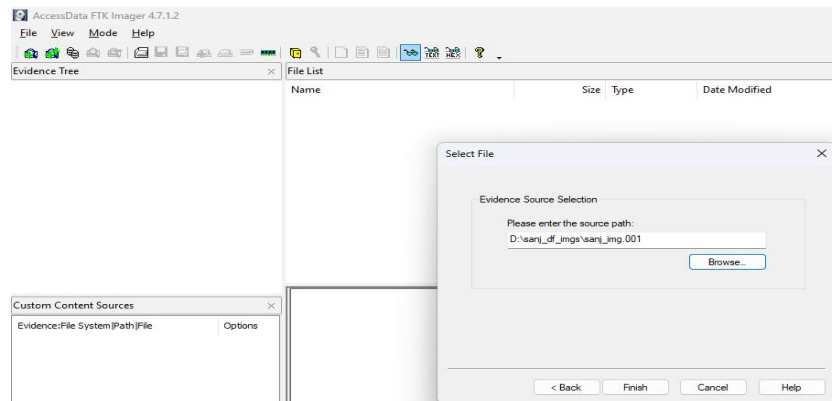
Verification started: Mon Jan 15 12:07:06 2024

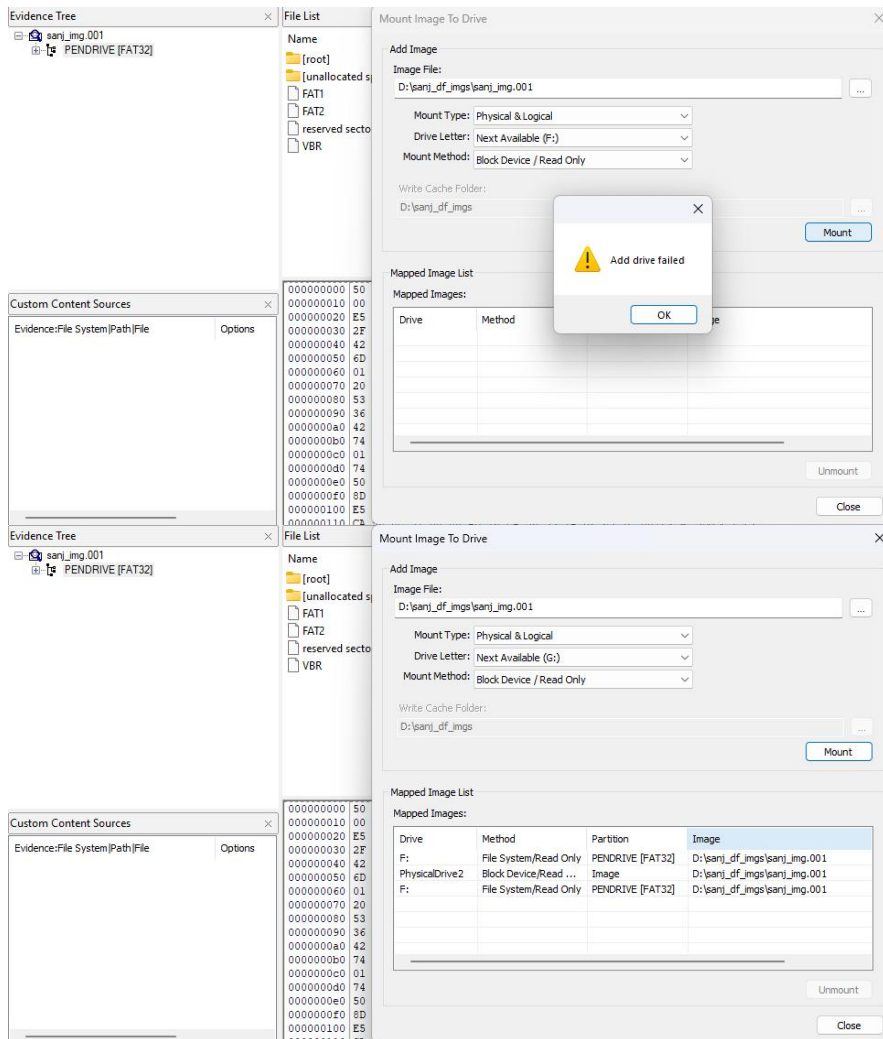
Verification finished: Mon Jan 15 12:07:30 2024

MD5 checksum: 62ea018fc14d097890c29b28f35cef18 : verified

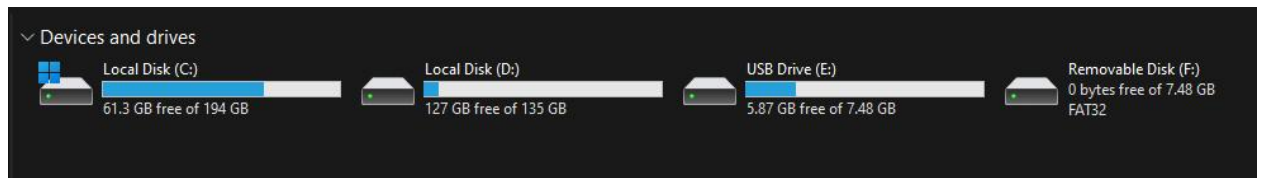
SHA1 checksum: 4327d266489058f2ac34ca5ea75f5956bb8f418a : verified

Now go to file -> Add evidence item
(select ur raw img folder)



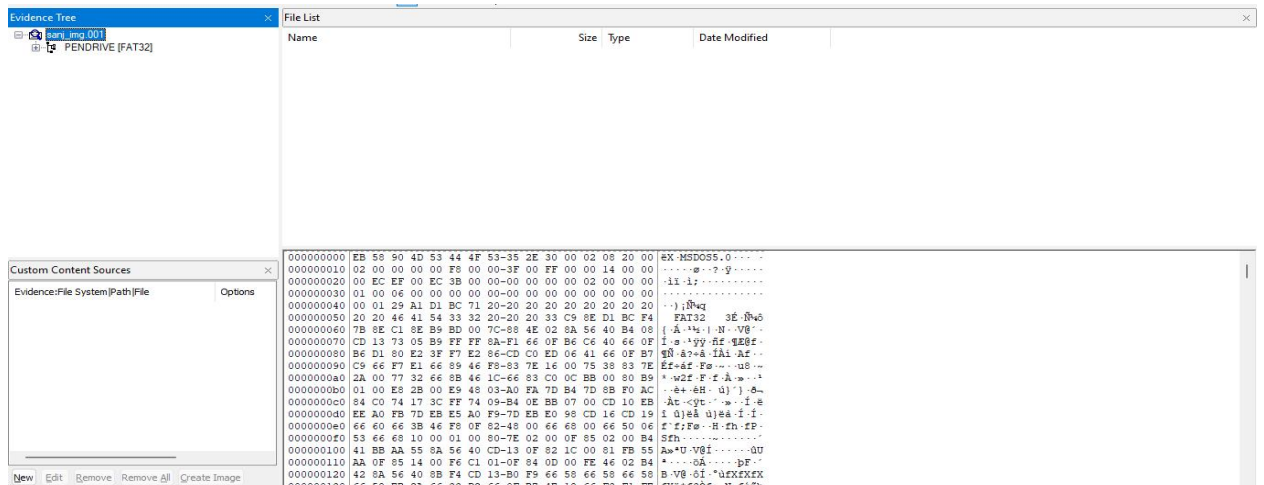


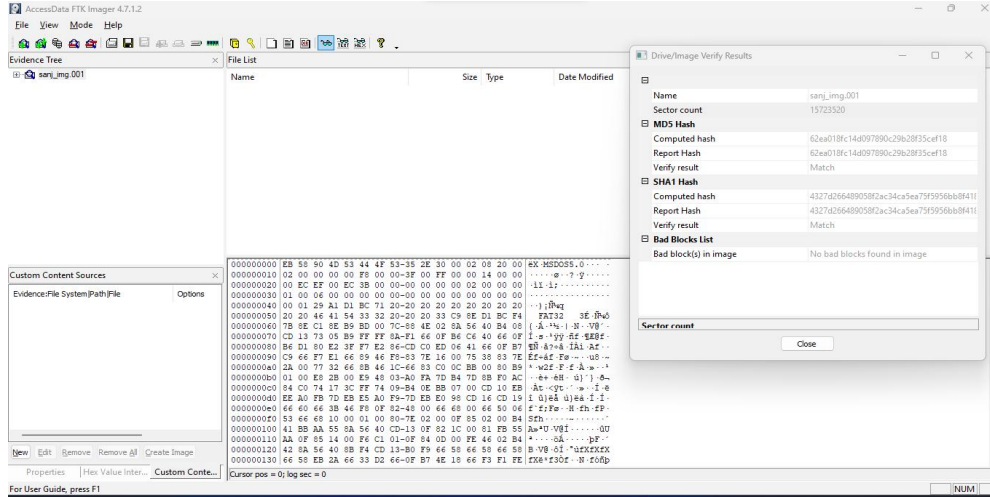
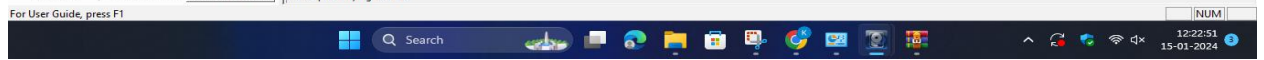
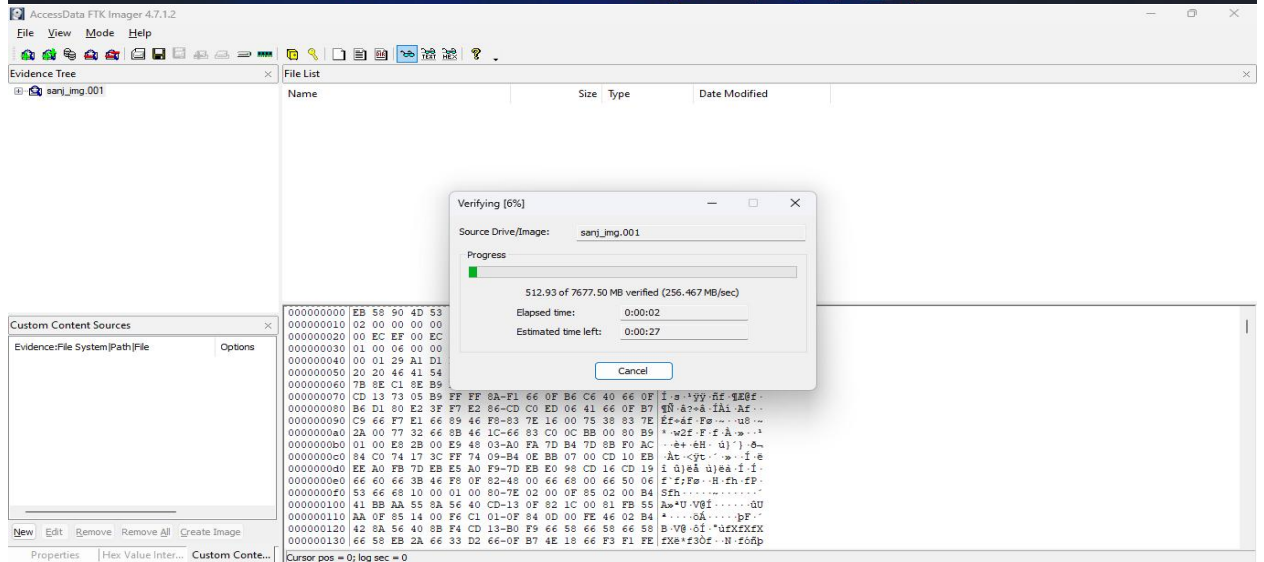
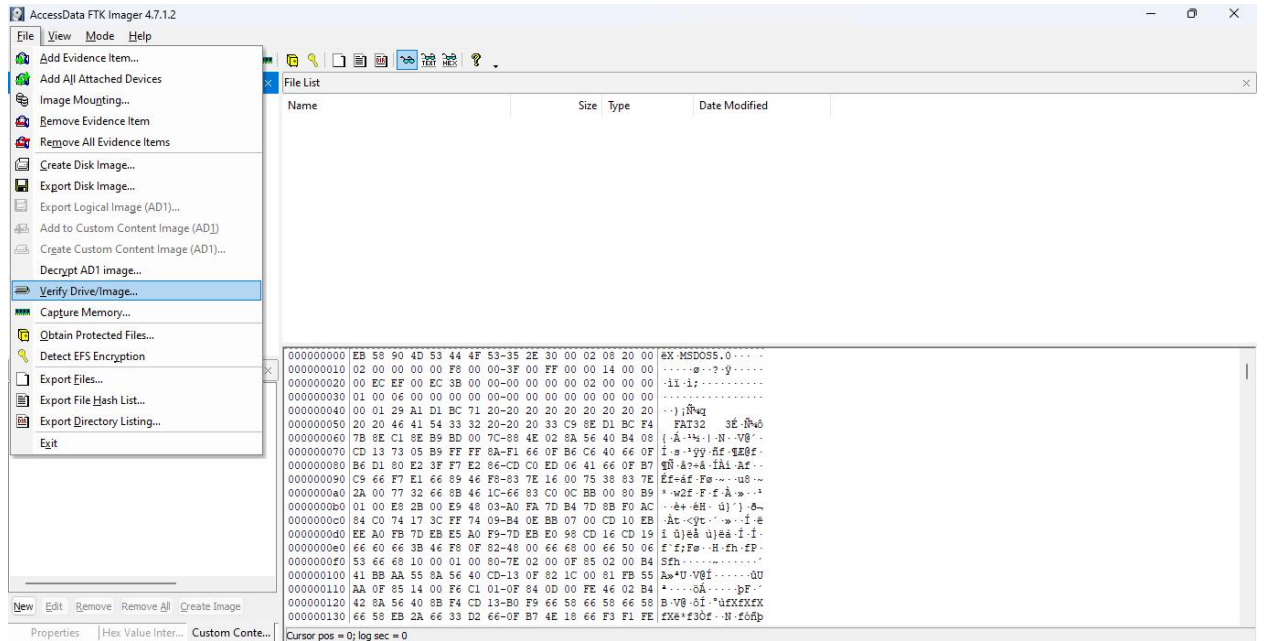
A new drive F has been created:



Now verify:

Select the folder .001 extension





Download autopsy for the report from <https://www.autopsy.com/download/>

The image shows a web browser window displaying the Autopsy website's download page. The page has a dark header with the Autopsy logo and navigation links. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled 'Download Autopsy', provides instructions for downloading version 4.21.0 for Windows, Linux, and OS X. It includes a 'DOWNLOAD 64-BIT' button and a list of steps for Linux installation. The right column, titled 'Download and Register', contains a registration form with fields for First Name, Last Name, Job Title, Organization, Business Email, and Autopsy Download (a dropdown menu). Below the form is a 'Country' dropdown. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows various application icons and the system clock.

Download Autopsy
VERSION 4.21.0 FOR WINDOWS
[DOWNLOAD 64-BIT](#)

DOWNLOAD FOR LINUX AND OS X
Autopsy 4 will run on Linux and OS X. To do so:

- Download the Autopsy ZIP file
- Linux will need The Sleuth Kit [Java .deb Debian package](#)
- Follow the [instructions](#) to install other dependencies

3rd Party Modules
3rd party add-on modules can be found in the [Module github repository](#).
From this repository, you can download all modules or just the ones that you want.

Download and Register

First Name Last Name

Job Title


Organization

Business Email*

Autopsy Download
Please Select

Country

Welcome


Autopsy
OPEN | EXTENSIBLE | FAST

New Case

Open Recent Case

Open Case

New Case Information

Steps

1. **Case Information**
2. Optional Information

Case Information

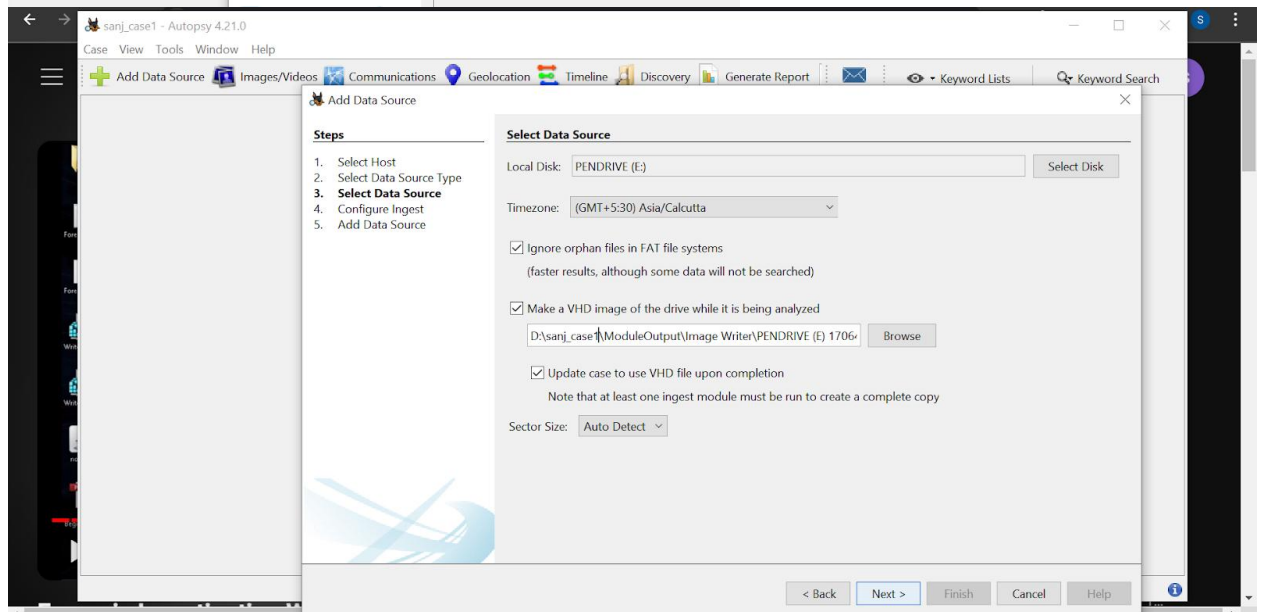
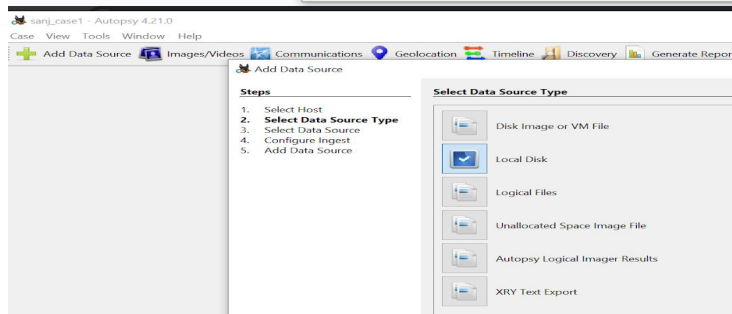
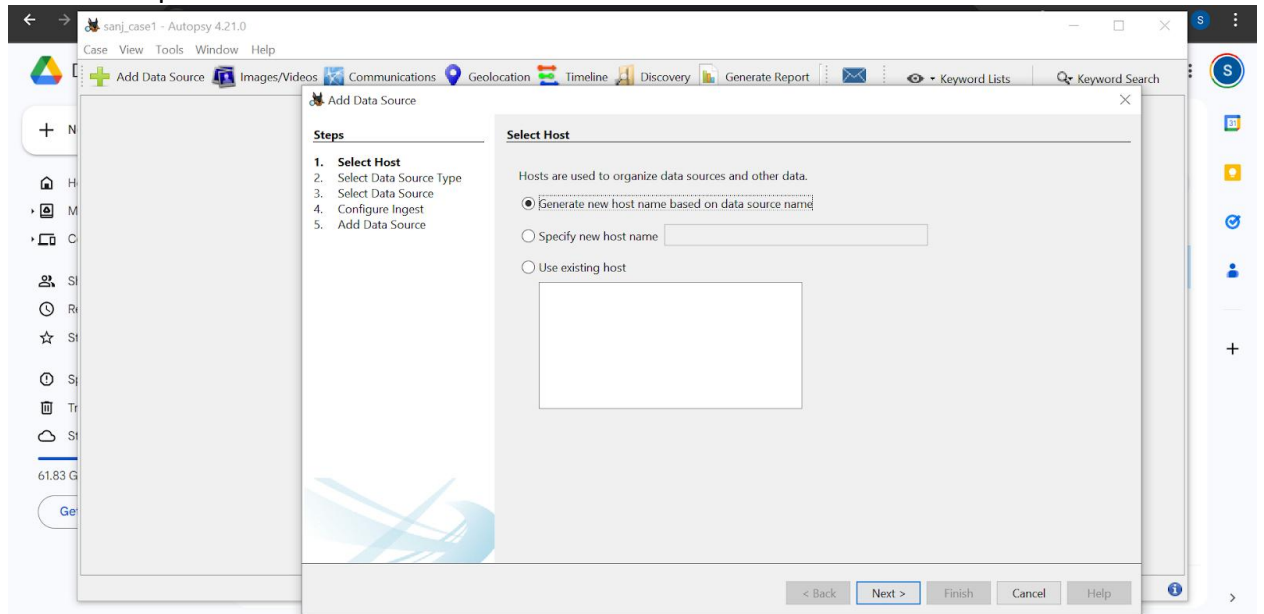
Case Name:

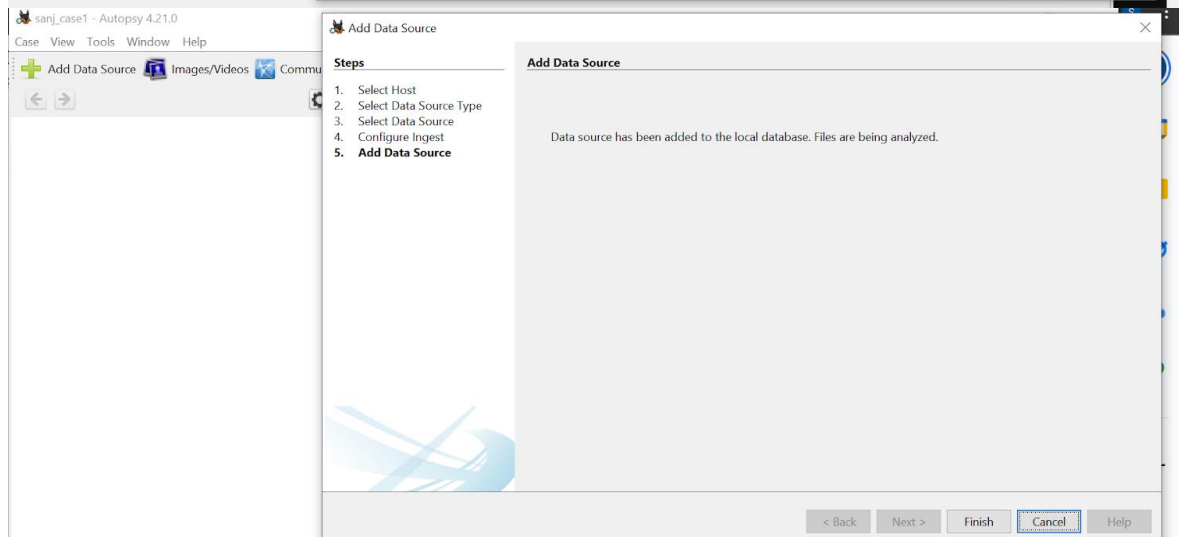
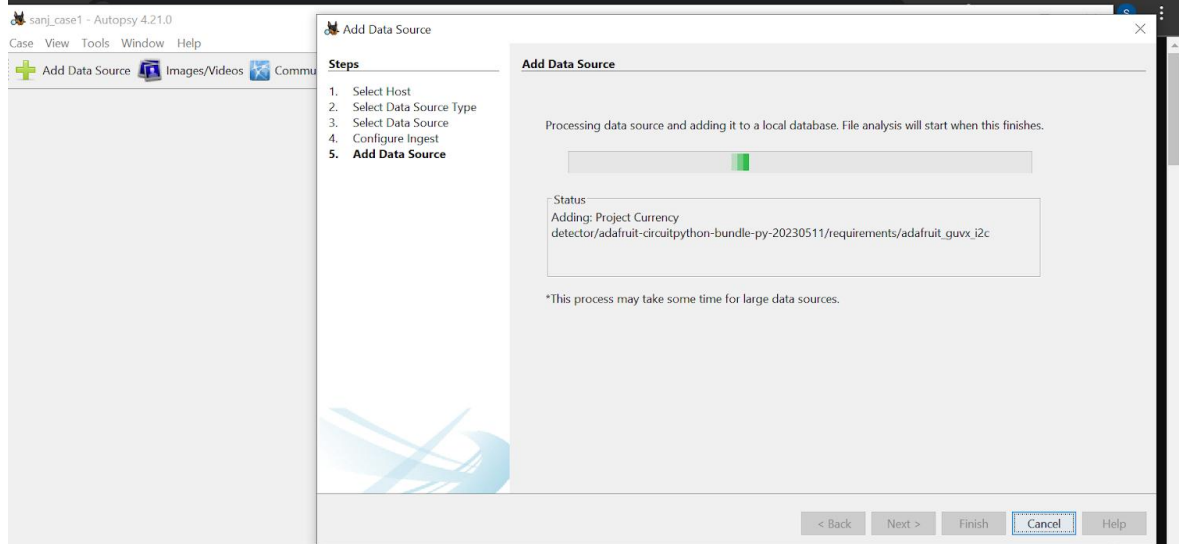
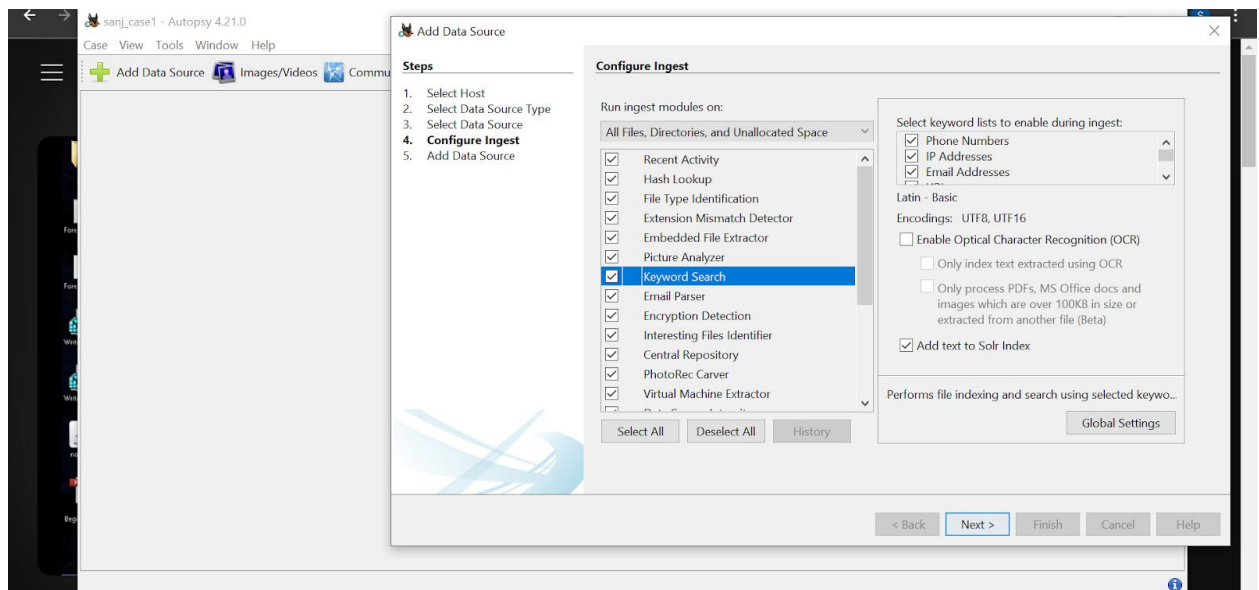
Base Directory:

Case Type: ☒ Single-User ☐ Multi-User

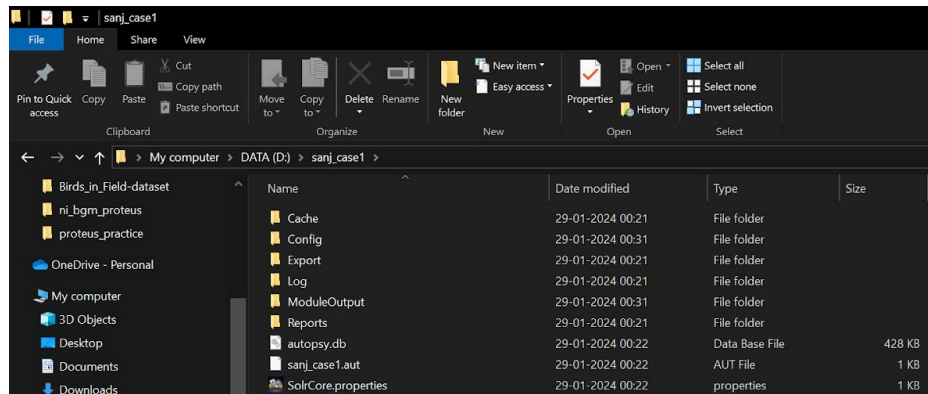
Case data will be stored in the following directory:

Leave the optional information blank

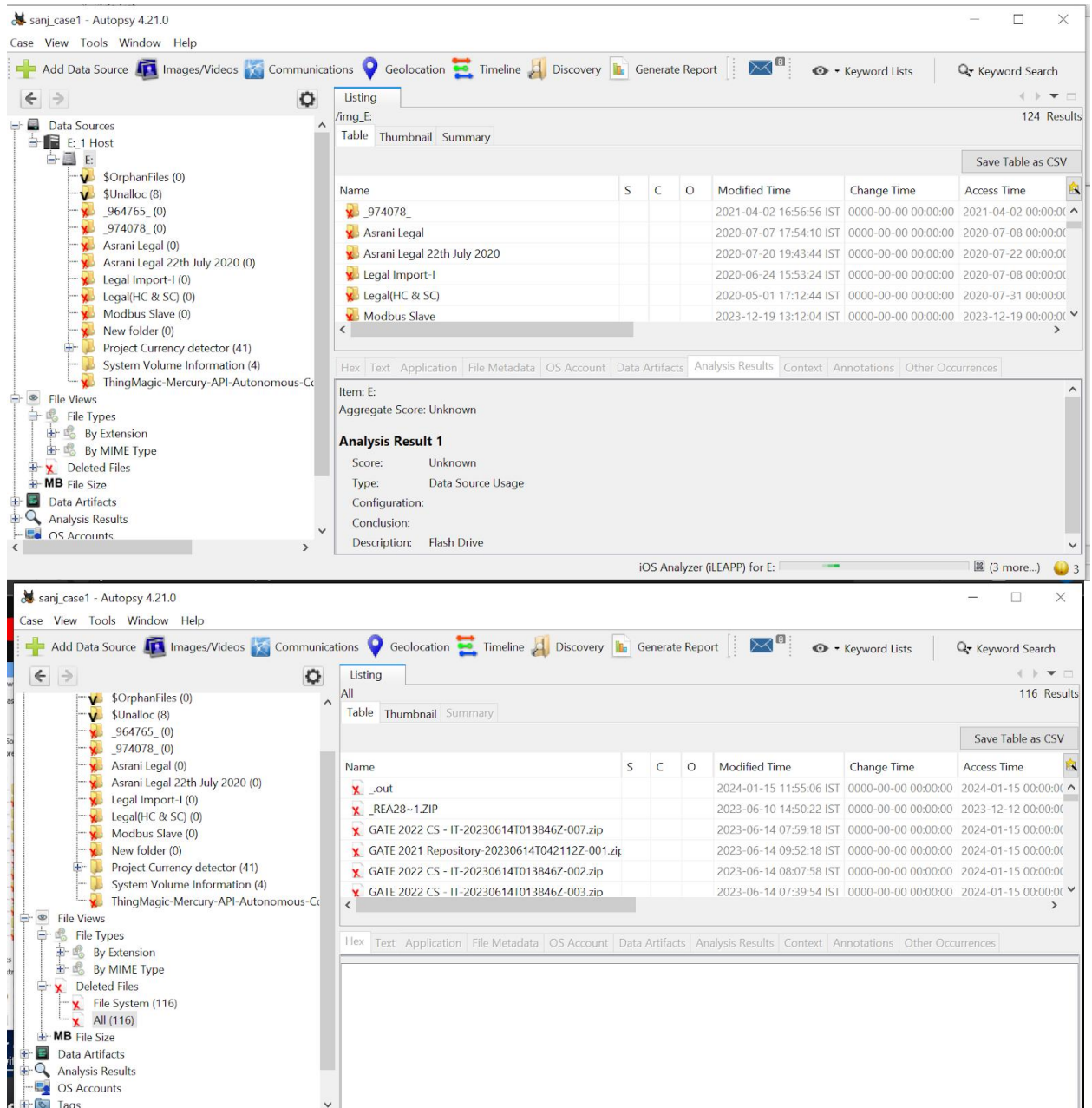


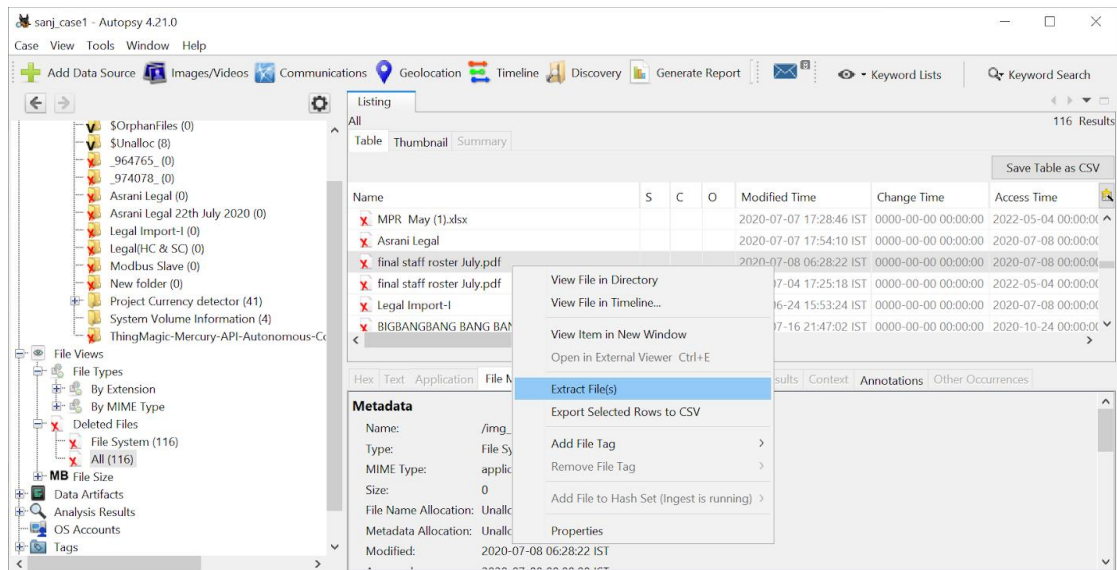


This is the folder:

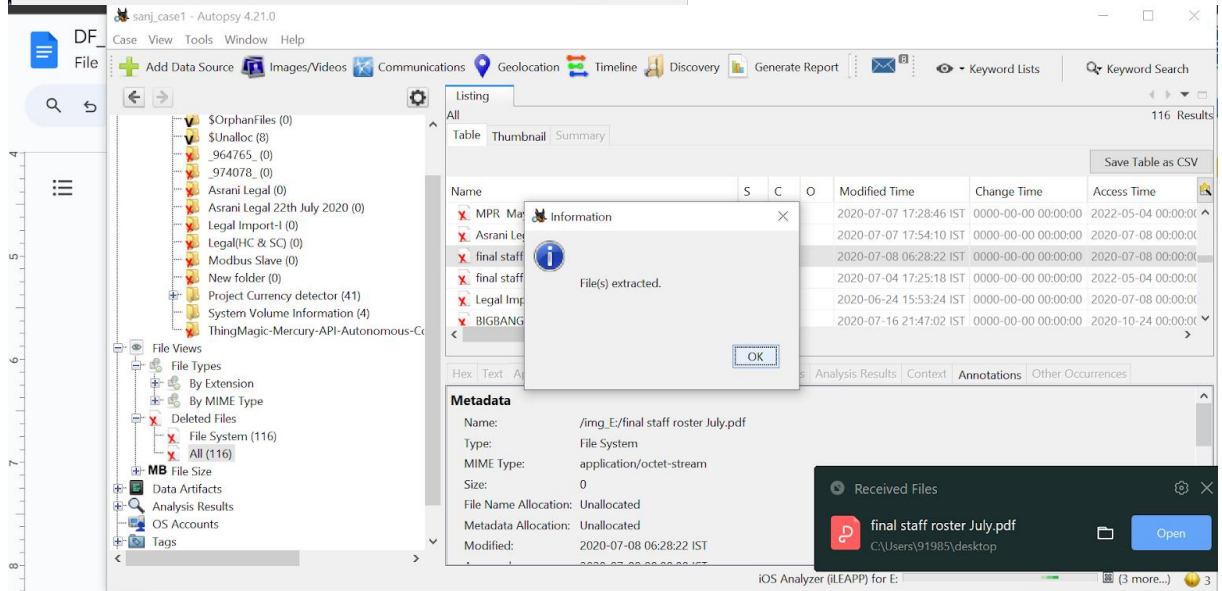
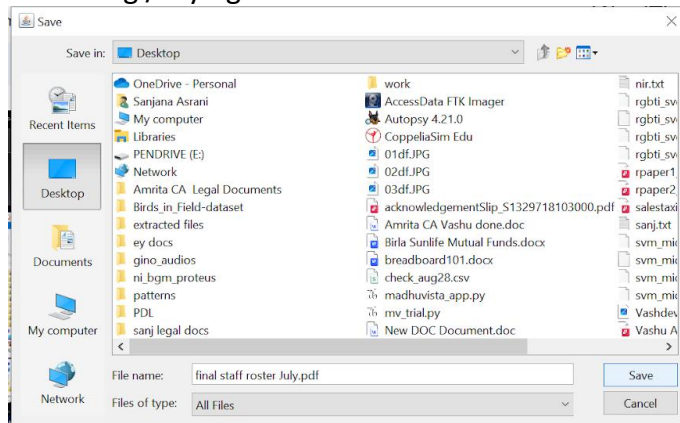


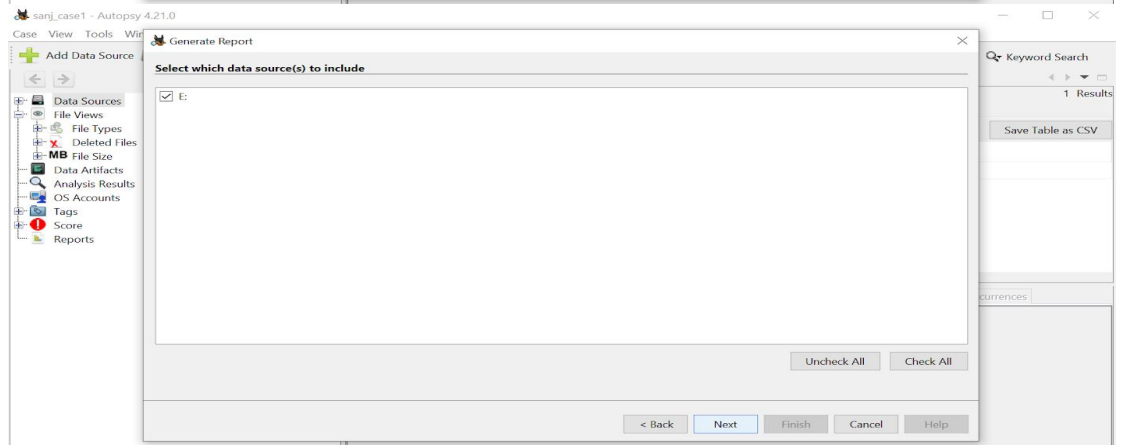
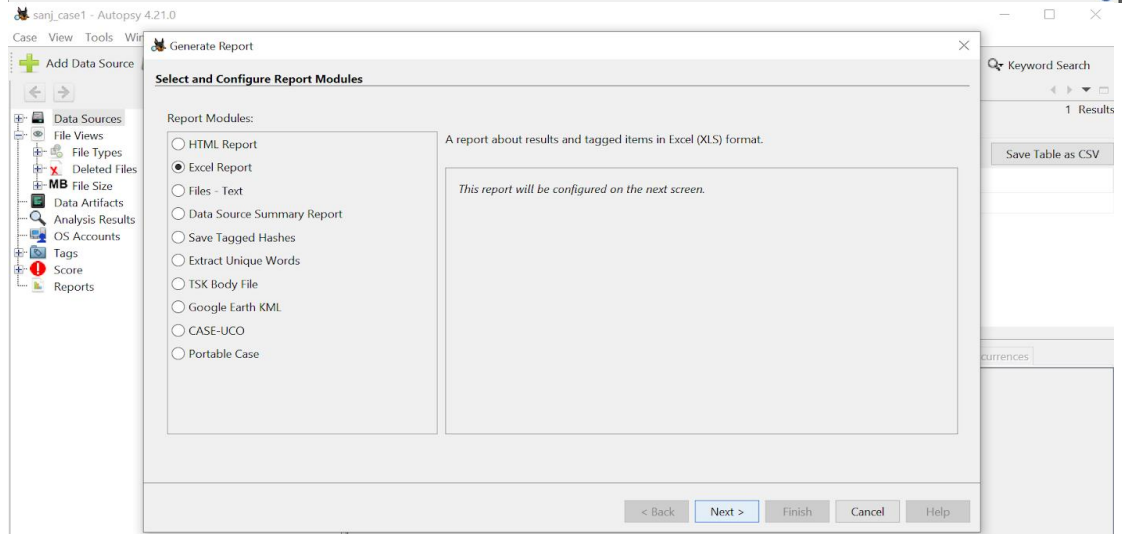
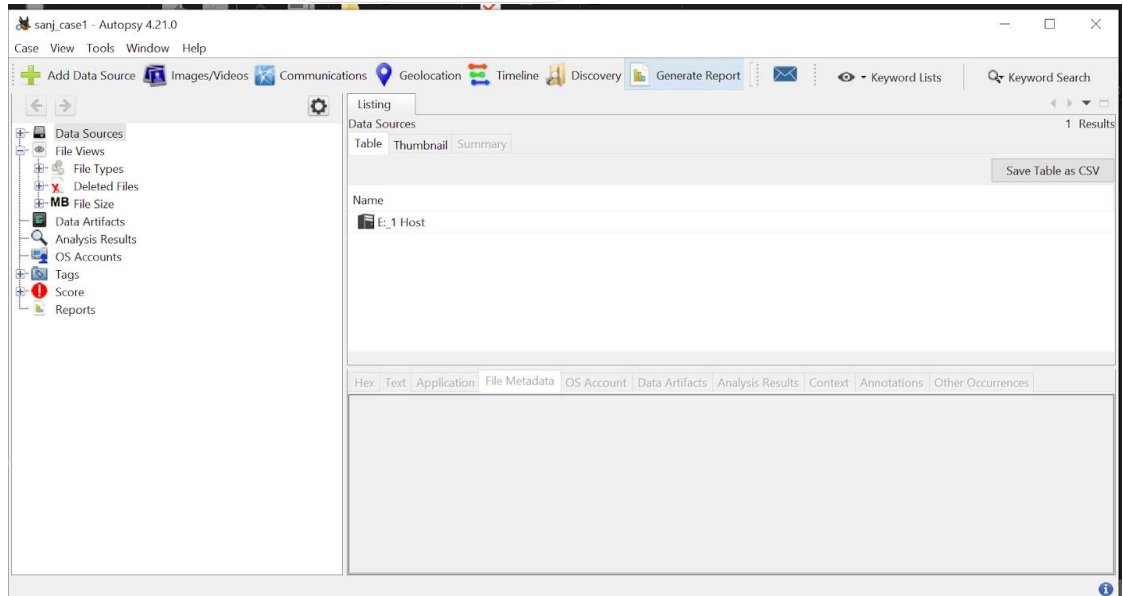
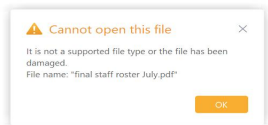
All the deleted folders can be seen:

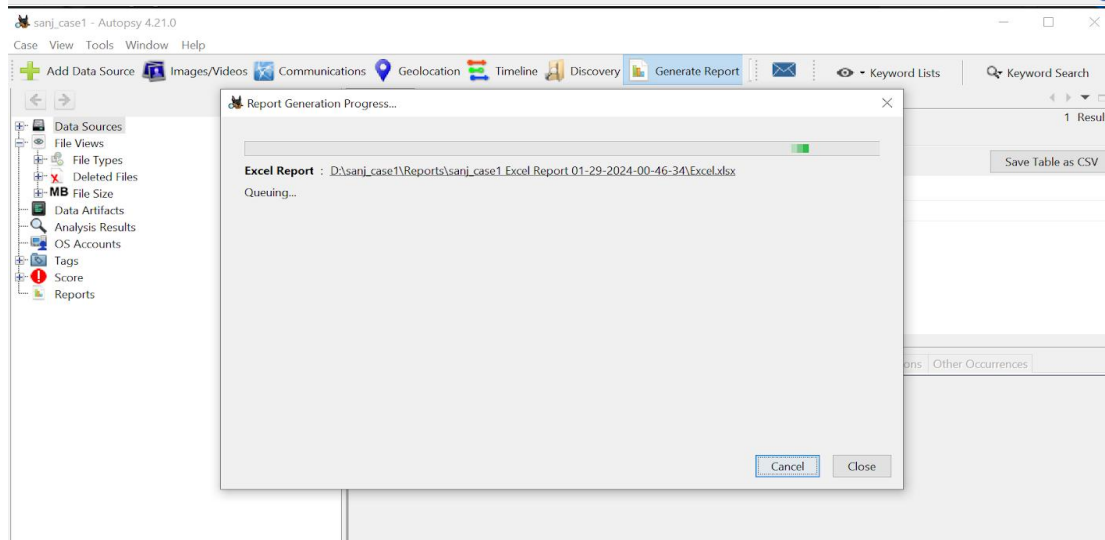
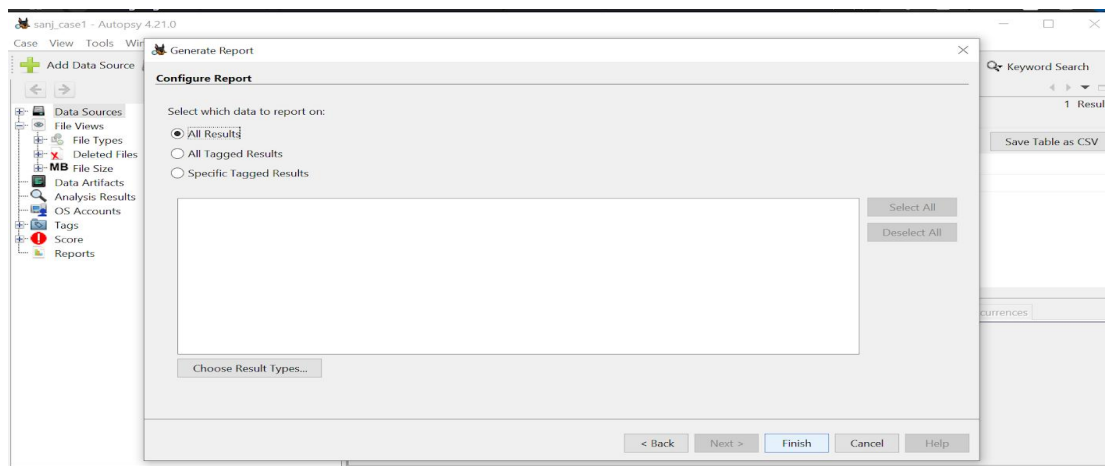




extracting / trying to recover a file

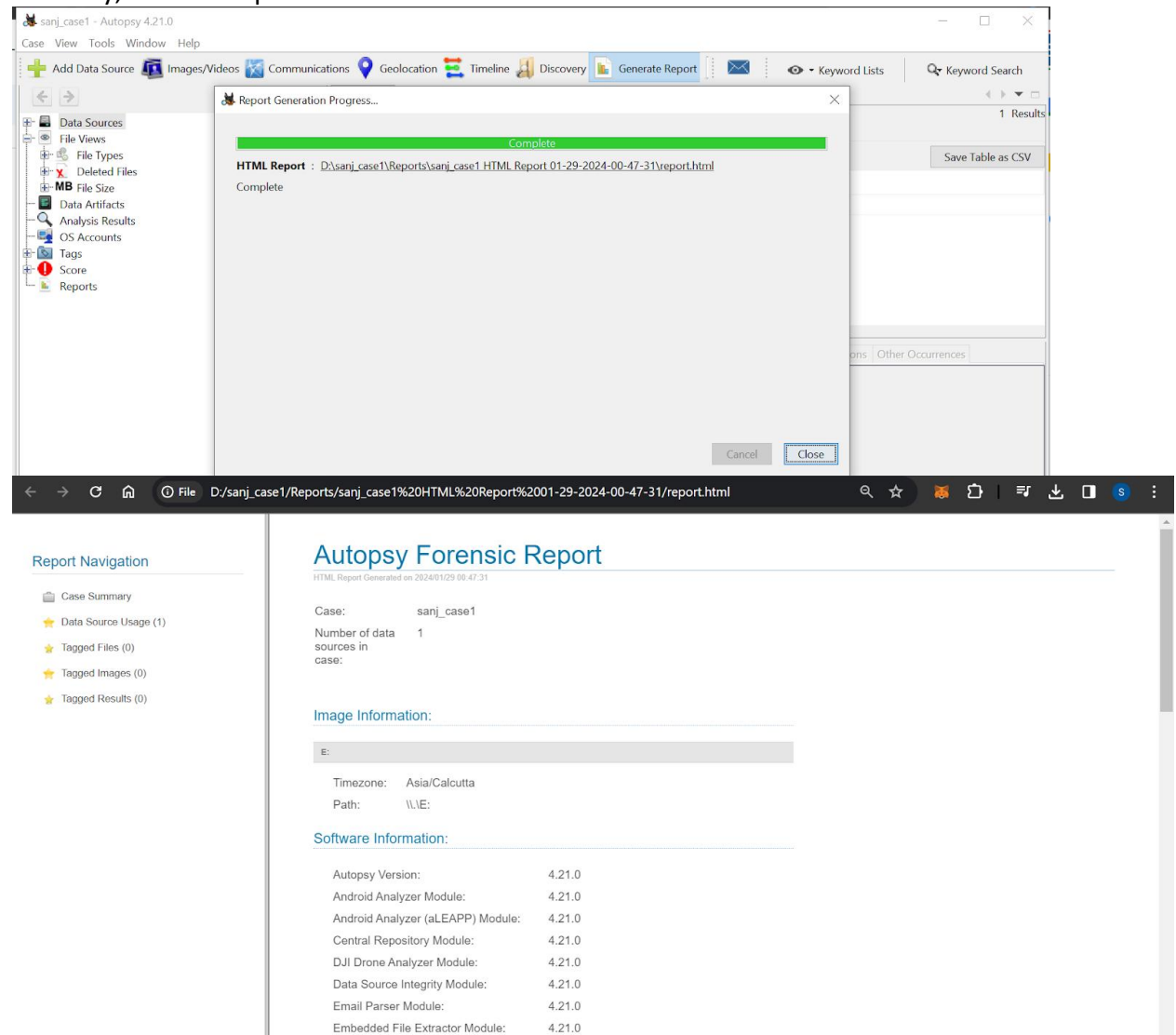






| | A | B | C | D | E |
|---|---------------------------------|------------|---|---|---|
| 1 | Summary | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | |
| 3 | Case Name: | sanj_case1 | | | |
| 4 | Number of data sources in case: | 1 | | | |
| 5 | | | | | |

Similarly, an html report:



CONCLUSION:

Thereby I have explored the basic steps of creating a forensic image using FTK Imager. by acquiring a bit-for-bit copy of the target drive, ensuring data integrity throughout the process. Subsequently, a report using Autopsy has been generated, employing its powerful tools to analyze the imaged drive comprehensively. I have navigated through the file systems, examined artifacts, and applied keyword searches to uncover potential evidence