

DF Lecture 2 Notes

Sure! Here's your **comprehensive and well-formatted version** of **Lecture 02: Introduction to Digital Forensics (Continued)** prepared neatly for exam revision. All definitions and concepts have been preserved **exactly as in your notes**, with **better organization, formatting, and readability**.

LECTURE 02: INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL FORENSICS (CONTINUED)

Dr. Zunera Jalil

✉ zunera.jalil@au.edu.pk

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Digital Forensics

Definition (Ken Zatyko – Former Director of Defense Computer Forensics Laboratory):

Digital Forensics is the application of computer science and investigative procedures for a legal purpose involving the analysis of digital evidence (information of probative value that is stored or transmitted in binary form) **after:**

- Proper search authority
 - Chain of custody
 - Validation with mathematics (hash function)
 - Use of validated tools
 - Repeatability
 - Reporting
 - Possible expert presentation
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NIST's Definition of Digital Forensics

NIST SP800-86 (*Guide to Integrating Forensic Techniques into Incident Response*)

"The application of science to the identification, collection, examination, and analysis of data while preserving the integrity of the information and maintaining a strict chain of custody for the data."

 [NIST Guide SP800-86](#)

Digital Forensics Standards

ISO 27037

"Information technology — Security techniques — Guidelines for identification, collection, acquisition and preservation of digital evidence"

 [ISO Standard](#)

CART (Computer Analysis and Response Team)

- FBI's team formed in 1984
- Handles cases involving digital evidence

 [CART Information](#)

Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

- Protects individuals from unlawful search and seizure
 - Courts consider whether a separate digital search warrant is necessary
 - Many investigators include digital devices in search warrants to avoid admissibility issues
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Digital Forensics vs. Other Disciplines

Digital Forensics vs. Network Forensics

- **Network Forensics:** Focuses on how attackers gain network access
- **Digital Forensics:** Focuses on data retrievable from storage media (hard drives, etc.)
- Investigates:
 - Logins, accessed URLs, login methods & locations
 - File changes, copies, tampering

Digital Forensics vs. Data Recovery

- **Digital Forensics:** Seeks hidden/deleted data as **evidence**
- **Data Recovery:** Retrieves accidentally deleted or lost data with a **known objective**

Digital Forensics vs. Disaster Recovery

- **Digital Forensics:** Extracts inculpatory or exculpatory evidence
- **Disaster Recovery:** Uses forensic techniques to recover lost data for the client

Digital Investigation Process

- ♦ **Investigators work in teams to ensure digital security**
- Triad model: Different groups/departments handle specific tasks
- **Digital Investigations Group:** Analyzes systems suspected of containing incident/crime-related evidence

Laws and Legal Frameworks

Case Law

- Used when no existing statute covers the digital situation
- Each case is evaluated on its **own merit**

Developing Digital Forensics Resources

- Knowledge across platforms: DOS, Windows 9x, Linux, Mac, Mobile OS
 - Join forums like **CTIN (Computer Technology Investigators Network)** for collaboration
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Digital Investigations Types

1. Public Investigations

- Involve government agencies
- Governed by criminal law and must follow **Fourth Amendment**

2. Private/Corporate Investigations

- Involve private entities
 - Governed by internal policies, not criminal law
 - Common issues:
 - Policy violations
 - Civil litigation
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Law Enforcement Investigations

♦ **Criminal Case Examples**

- Burglary, murder, molestation, fraud
- Computers are **tools**, like lockpicks in burglaries

♦ **Legal Process (3 Stages):**

1. Complaint
2. Investigation
3. Prosecution

♦ **Key Terms**

- **Affidavit:** Sworn statement to request a search warrant

- Must be notarized and approved by a judge
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Corporate Investigations

♦ **Common Corporate Crimes**

- Email harassment
 - Falsification of data
 - Discrimination
 - Embezzlement
 - Espionage
 - Sabotage
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Reducing Litigation Risk

1. Establishing Company Policies

- Clear policies allow internal investigations

2. Displaying Warning Banners

- Inform users their data and activities are not private
- Gives the company authority to monitor

3. Designating Authorized Requesters

- Only certain departments should be allowed to initiate investigations:
 - Corporate Security
 - Ethics Office
 - Equal Employment Office
 - Auditing
 - Legal Department

4. Conducting Security Investigations

- Types:
 - Abuse/misuse of assets
 - Email/Internet abuse

5. Distinguishing Personal vs Company Property

- Personal devices (phones, laptops) should not connect to corporate systems
- Prevents data mingling

Let me know if you want this converted into a PDF, printed notes, or if you'd like a flashcard or quiz version for revision!

Sure! Here's a continuation in the **same clean, structured, and easy-to-study format** as before:

PREPARING DIGITAL FORENSIC INVESTIGATION: SYSTEMATIC APPROACH

Steps for Preparing a Case:

- Make an initial assessment of the case type
- Determine a preliminary approach/design
- Create a detailed checklist
- Identify and gather required resources
- Obtain and create a copy of the evidence drive
- Identify possible risks
- Plan mitigation strategies
- Test your approach/design
- Analyze and recover digital evidence
- Investigate recovered data

- Complete a comprehensive case report
 - Conduct a final critique of the case
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EXAMPLE: DIGITAL FORENSICS CASE 1

Scenario:

- Steve Billings, a manager, receives customer complaints about George Montgomery's performance.
 - George and another employee, Martha, are both missing without notice.
 - IT confiscates George's hard drive and storage media.
 - Goal: Find clues related to George's behavior and absence.
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SOLUTION: DIGITAL FORENSICS CASE 1 (1/5)

Case Assessment:

- Conversations with coworkers reveal George is running a side business using company computers.
- **Focus of Investigation:** Potential misuse of company resources.

Details:

- **Situation:** Employee resource abuse
 - **Nature:** Personal business on company systems
 - **Specifics:** Registering domains and setting up websites for clients
 - **Company Policy:** No expectation of privacy on company systems
 - **Evidence Type:** USB drive (NTFS file system)
 - **Location of Evidence:** George's assigned workstation
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SOLUTION: DIGITAL FORENSICS CASE 1 (2/5)

Abuse of Company Resources:

- Evidence of personal business activity
 - Keywords to search for: Websites, domain names, ISPs
 - USB drive formatted with NTFS
 - Focus: Recover relevant data from USB drive
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SOLUTION: DIGITAL FORENSICS CASE 1 (3/5)

Tools Needed:

- Reliable digital forensic tool for:
 - Creating forensic copy (bit-by-bit duplication)
 - Finding deleted and hidden files
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SOLUTION: DIGITAL FORENSICS CASE 1 (4/5)

Planning the Investigation:

1. Acquire and tag evidence (USB)
2. Fill out an evidence custody form
3. Transport to the digital forensic lab
4. Place in a secure evidence container
5. Prepare forensic workstation
6. Retrieve evidence from storage
7. Make a forensic image (bit-by-bit copy)
8. Return original evidence to secure storage
9. Begin analysis on copied image

Evidence Forms:

- Single-Evidence Form

- Multi-Evidence Form
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SOLUTION: DIGITAL FORENSICS CASE 1 (5/5)

Securing the Evidence:

- Use anti-static bags and padding for transport
 - Clearly label and tag evidence
 - Seal with tape and write initials
 - Insert dummy disks in drives during transportation to avoid damage
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ACTIVITY TIME – 10 MINUTES

Group Discussions:

- **Group A:** Employee Termination & Internet Abuse Cases (Page 32)
 - **Group B:** Email Abuse Investigation (Pages 33-34)
 - **Group C:** Attorney-Client Privilege Investigation (Pages 34-35)
 - **Group D:** Industrial Espionage Investigations (Pages 36-37)
 - **Group E:** Interviews & Interrogations in High-Tech Investigations (Pages 37-38)
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DATA RECOVERY WORKSTATIONS AND SOFTWARE

FORENSIC WORKSTATION (1/2)

Supported Operating Systems:

- MS-DOS 6.22
- Windows 95/98/Me
- Windows NT/2000/XP/Vista/7/8/10
- Linux

- Mac OS X/macOS
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FORENSIC WORKSTATION (2/2)

Essential Hardware/Software:

- Write-blocker device
- Forensic acquisition tools
- Forensic analysis tools
- Target drive (for image)
- Spare PATA/SATA/USB ports

Additional Useful Items:

- NIC (Network Interface Card)
 - FireWire 400/800 ports
 - SCSI card
 - Disk editor, text editor, and graphics viewer tools
 - Specialized viewing tools
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BIT STREAM COPIES

- Bit-by-bit or forensic copies are exact images of the entire disk or partition
 - Commonly known as “acquiring an image” or “making an image”
 - Ensures all sectors, including deleted files, are copied
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ANALYZING DIGITAL EVIDENCE

- Deleted files can still exist on disk until overwritten
- Forensic tools (e.g., **Autopsy**) help retrieve deleted files

- Useful for extracting hidden or fragmented evidence

 [Autopsy Download \(v4.3.0\)](#)

COMPLETING THE CASE

Final Report Should Include:

- Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How
 - Explanation of digital processes and evidence found
 - Logs from forensic tools showing analysis steps
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READING REFERENCES

Textbook 1:

- *Guide to Computer Forensics and Investigations*

Edition: 6th

Chapter: 1 – *Understanding the Digital Forensics Profession and Investigations*

Textbook 2:

- *Fundamentals of Digital Forensics: Theory, Methods and Real-Life Applications*

Edition: 2nd

Chapter: 1

Let me know if you'd like a summarized cheat sheet or a visual diagram to go with this too!