Towards a Capability Maturity Model for Digital Forensic Readiness

Günther Pernul, Ludwig Englbrecht and Stefan Meier Department of Information Systems, University of Regensburg





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Agenda

- 1. Introduction to Digital Forensics
- 2. Digital Forensics in Enterprises
- 3. Need for Digital Forensic Readiness
- 4. Capability Maturity Model for Digital Forensic Readiness



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Motivation – Why do we need digital forensics?







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Digital Forensics Definitions

Digital forensics deals with scientific methods from computer science to provide legitimate and correct digital evidence in a court of law / or the legal system.

- E.g. cases of computer misuse
- To clarify fraud and computer related crime



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Scientific Method: Hypothesis Testing

Breadth of Investigation Initial H_n H_1 Hypotheses Depth of Investigation $H_{n} \\$ Η..



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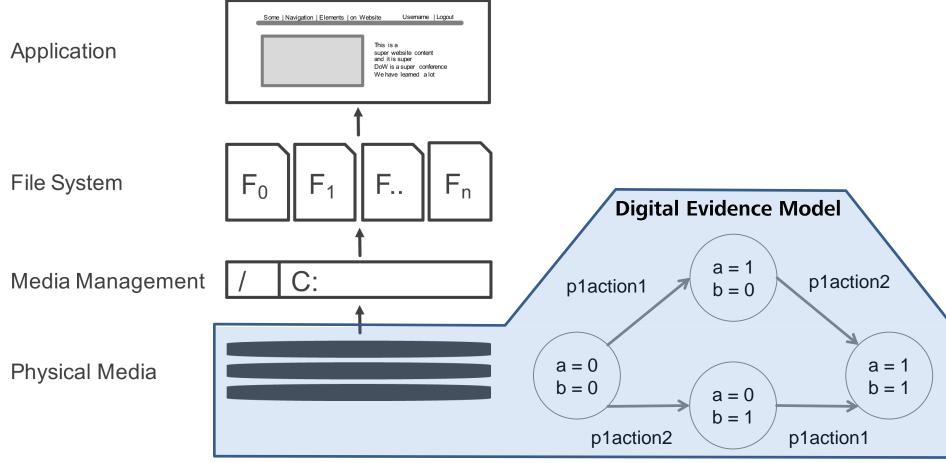
Digital Evidence

- Any data stored or transmitted using a computer that support or refute a theory of how an offense occurred or that address critical elements of the offense such as intent or alibi.
- Digital evidence is also physical evidence in the first place
 - Magnetization on the surface of a hard disk
 - Electromagnetic waves on a data cable
 - Transistor's state of charge



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Digital Evidence Abstraction Layers





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What is the basis to infer certain actions in real life computer systems?



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Basic Forensic Principles in the Digital World

Question: Did computer A visit website B?

- 1. **Identify** files which might potentially be useful
- 2. <u>Classify</u> preserved files as browser cache files
- Analyze content of cached files to find <u>individual</u> characteristics like cached user name, specific site, content of sites, timestamp of files, ...
- 4. Establish an <u>association</u> between the website B and the computer A based on the outcomes of the previous step.



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Digital Evidence Problems

- Generally not tamper resistant
- Easy alterable



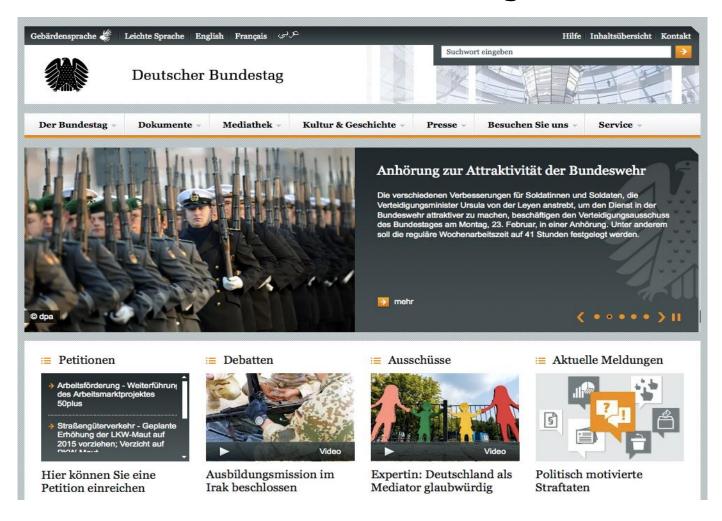
 Digital Evidence is not directly linkable to a natural person





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DDoS-Attack on www.bundestag.de





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(Basic) Forensic investigation process

Examination Analysis Acquisition Presentation Secure and collect Decide which Interpretation of Write a Report digital evidence evidence/data is data from the crime relevant to the case Present evidence in Correlate evidence a court of law scene Handle uncertainty

Assess likelihood of

events



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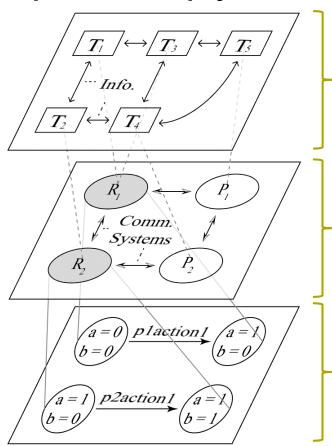
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Digital Forensics in Enterprises

Relationships between the task, the application software level and operations on physical devices



Tasks performed by employees

Application software level supporting a business process within an enterprise

(e.g. ERP-Software)

Operations on physical devices

(e.g. open file, read/write/delete/append, close file)



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Digital Forensic Readiness Goals

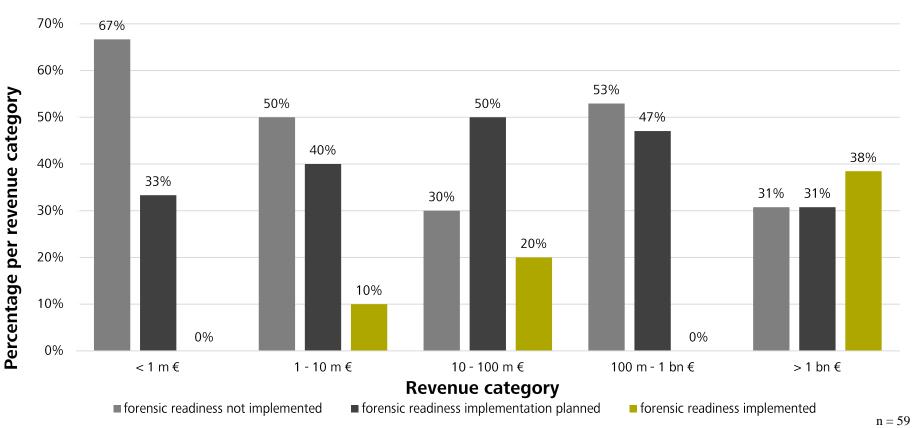
- Maximize an environment's ability to collect credible digital evidence.
- 2. Minimize the cost of forensics in an incident response.





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Forensic Readiness in Organizations





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How to implement Digital Forensic Readiness – Capability Levels

Step 1: Defining capability levels

Description of the defined capability levels

Level	Description		
0 - Incomplete	The DF related objectives are <u>not</u> reached.		
1 - Performed	The intended goals in DF are reached.		
2 - Managed	DF initiatives and activities are managed and not ad-hoc performed.		
3 - Completely	A standardized process for DF activities is in place. The procedures		
defined	underlie a continuous improvement.		

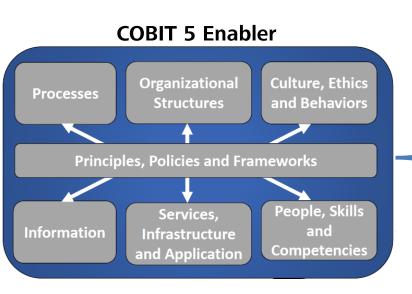


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How to implement Digital Forensic Readiness – IT-Governance

Step 2: For each COBIT 5 enabler a certain level of capability can be determined

Capability Levels



Enabler: Principles, Policies and Frameworks

Enabler: Processes

Enabler: Organizational structures

Enabler: Information

Enabler: Culture, ethics and behavior

Enabler: People, skills and competencies

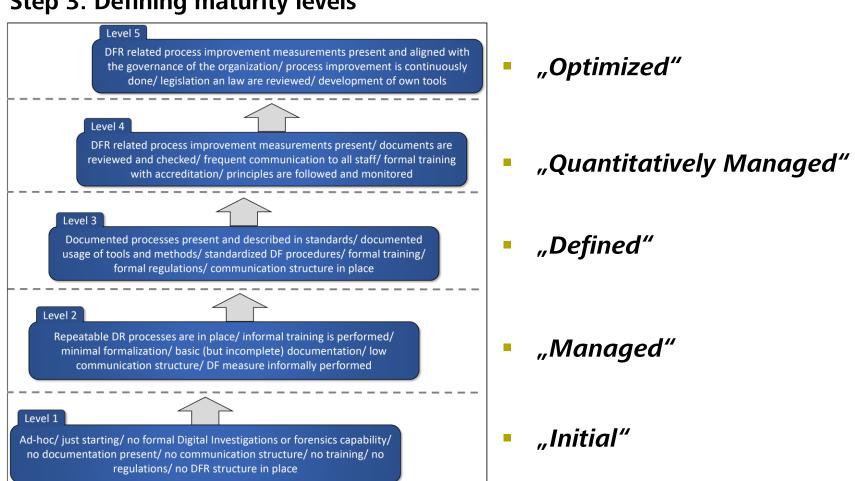
Enabler: Services, infrastructure and applications



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How to implement Digital Forensic Readiness – Maturity Levels

Step 3: Defining maturity levels

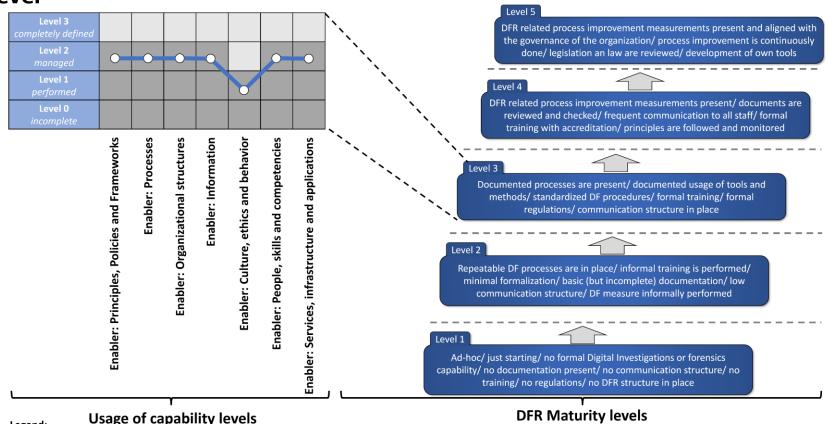




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How to implement Digital Forensic Readiness – Overview

Step 4: A specific set of capability levels per Enabler defines a specific maturity level

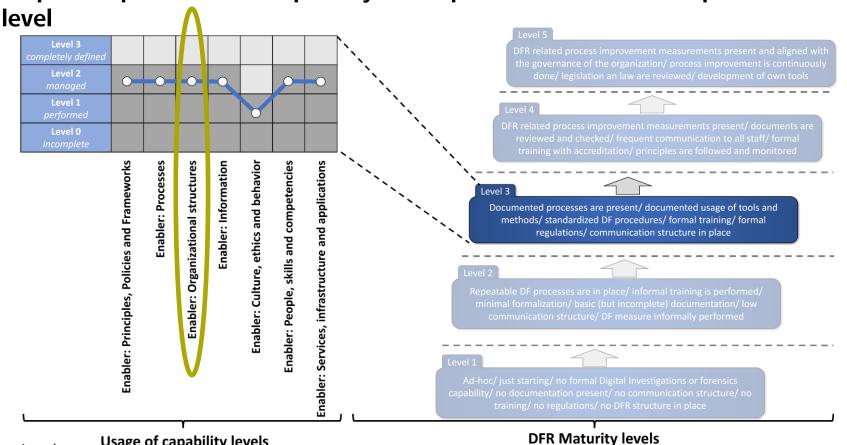




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How to implement Digital Forensic Readiness – Example

Step 4: A specific set of capability levels per Enabler defines a specific maturity





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How to implement Digital Forensic Readiness – Example

Indicators to determine the <u>capability level</u> of the Enabler "Organizational structures"

Indicator	aligned to enabler	max. contribution (cap. level)	$type \\ m = mandatory \\ o = optional$
Responsibilities for the case of a DF investigation are known	Organizational structures	1	
Responsibilities for the case of a DF investigation are defined	Organizational structures	2	m
DF related decision making guidelines are included in job-descriptions or roles	Organizational structures	3	m
Rights within Information Systems are defined	Organizational structures	1	m
Rights within Information Systems are defined and adjusted to prevent potential destroying or tampering of evidences	Organizational structures	2	m
Identity management system is in place	Organizational structures	3	О
Escalation rules are defined	Organizational structures	2	m
Escalation rules are defined, reviewed and monitored	Organizational structures	3	m

Presence of this indicator is mandatory to reach level 1



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How to implement Digital Forensic Readiness – Example

Level 3

Documented processes are present/ documented usage of tools and methods/ standardized DF procedures/ formal training/ formal regulations/ communication structure in place

- The minimal necessity to have DFR in place is the maturity level 3
- The higher levels, Level 4 and 5, assist to set up necessary requirements to faster adopt new demands in DFR
- The model can be used for continuous improvements in specific areas and to <u>stay digital forensic ready</u>



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Current state of research

- Further evaluation of the DFR capability maturity model by using a interactive web tool for self-assessment and conducting expert interviews.
- Define enterprise forensics as a new academic field of research.
- Integration of business process descriptions into enterprise forensics investigations.
- Create methods and tools for the investigation of application systems on the application systems abstraction layer.



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Any questions?



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Contact Information



Universität Regensburg Prof. Dr. Günther Pernul

Lehrstuhl für Wirtschaftsinformatik I

Universität Regensburg

Universitätsstr. 31

D-93053 Regensburg

Tel: +49 (0) 941 943 2743

Fax: +49 (0) 941 943 2744

eMail: guenther.pernul@wiwi.uni-regensburg.de

Web: www-ifs.uni-regensburg.de



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