

Philip Herman

DFR 1001

11/12/2019

Lab #4

The purpose of this lab was to recover images using both FTK and PhotoRec and compare the results of the two programs. To start this process, I opened up FTK and started a new case and made sure the destination file was set to the right folder. I kept all of the settings as the default and imported the E01 file from the "Evidence" folder provided on Blackboard. From there I was able to process the files and use the data carving tool to come up with a total of five hundred and fifteen files; two hundred and sixty two other thumbnails, three hundred and eighty four deleted items, one hundred and sixteen duplicate items, twenty-four OLE subitems, three hundred and seventy five data carved items, one hundred and twenty three documents, two hundred and sixty two graphics, two executables, seven folders, ninety free space, twelve known type and nineteen unknown type files. Before I could start the PhotoRec part of this lab, I had to open up FTK imager and mount the file so that it would appear on a separate drive. Without doing that, PhotoRec won't be able to find the file. Once the file was mounted I opened up PhotoRec and ran it as an administrator. From there I opened up the drive it was in and selected the FAT32 file and carved the portion of the file with unallocated space by selecting "free" from the next prompt. From there I selected the next directory which was the drwxxx file with two dots at the end and started the recovery process which saved to the folder it was directed to in the beginning. The biggest difference between the two is that upon completion it didn't break down which file was for which. It just stated that one hundred and eighty files were saved in the folder to be viewed. Upon opening that folder all the files were visible, some were audio, some were pictures and some were text files. Both programs show you what is in the files, however it is done in very different ways. I think FTK is better, personally, because it catches more information and filters it a little better than PhotoRec did.

FTK even caught the deleted files which was good in case someone tried to discard evidence, it can be retraced. Overall I liked this lab and thought it was a great way to expand into new tools and show that even though two tools are marked to do the same job, they don't always do them as thoroughly and as well as others can.



