

USB READ ONLY ASSIGNMENT

Digital Forensic

Ramesh Kumar (24109114)

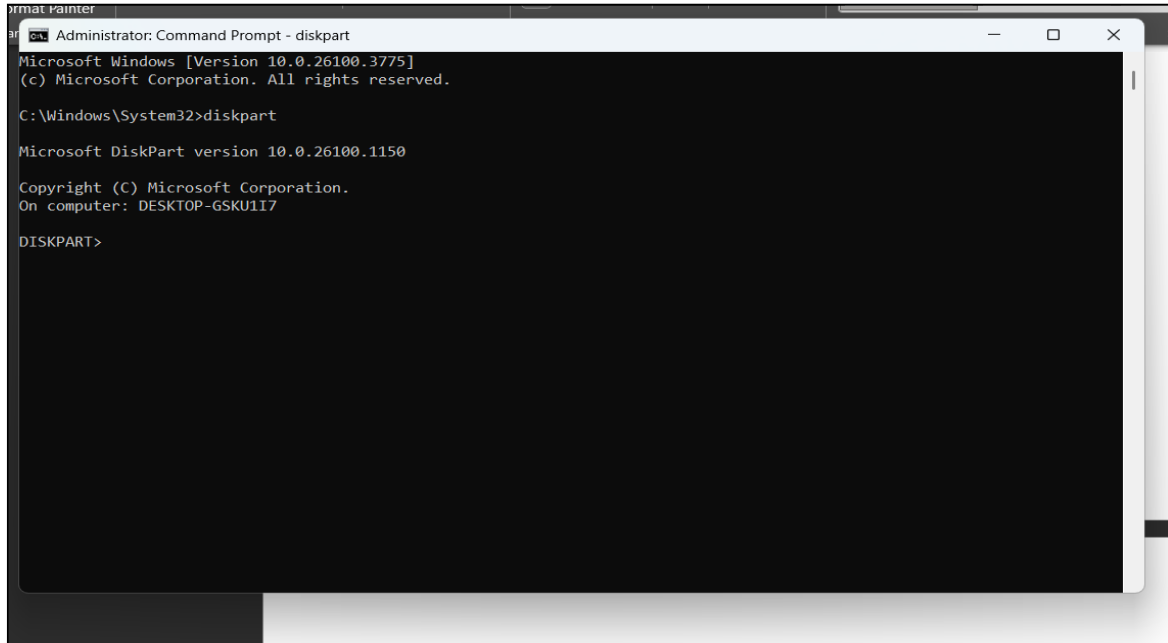
SZABIST

Teacher: Muhammad Waqar

Setting a USB to Read-Only

Step 1: Run Command Prompt as Administrator and Open Diskpart Tool

- Press **Windows** + **S** key together.
- Type **cmd** in the search bar.
- **Right-click** on "Command Prompt" → Select "**Run as administrator**".
- In the Command Prompt window, type: diskpart
- Press **Enter**.



Step 2: List all disks and select your USB drive

- type: list disk; it will show all the disks connected to your computer
- Press Enter.
- Find your USB drive with size
- Type: select disk X (Replace X with your USB's disk number.)
- Press **Enter**

```
Administrator: Command Prompt - diskpart
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.26100.3775]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\System32>diskpart

Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.26100.1150

Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: DESKTOP-GSKU1I7

DISKPART> list disk

   Disk ###  Status         Size      Free      Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0      Online          476 GB    2048 KB
   Disk 1      Online          29 GB         0 B

DISKPART> select disk 1

Disk 1 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> _
```

Step 3: Set the USB as Read-Only

- **type:** attributes disk set readonly
- Press **Enter**, a message will be displayed: "**Disk attributes set successfully.**"

```
Administrator: Command Prompt - diskpart
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.26100.3775]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\System32>diskpart

Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.26100.1150

Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: DESKTOP-GSKU1I7

DISKPART> list disk

   Disk ###  Status         Size      Free      Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0      Online          476 GB    2048 KB
   Disk 1      Online          29 GB         0 B

DISKPART> select disk 1

Disk 1 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> attributes disk set readonly

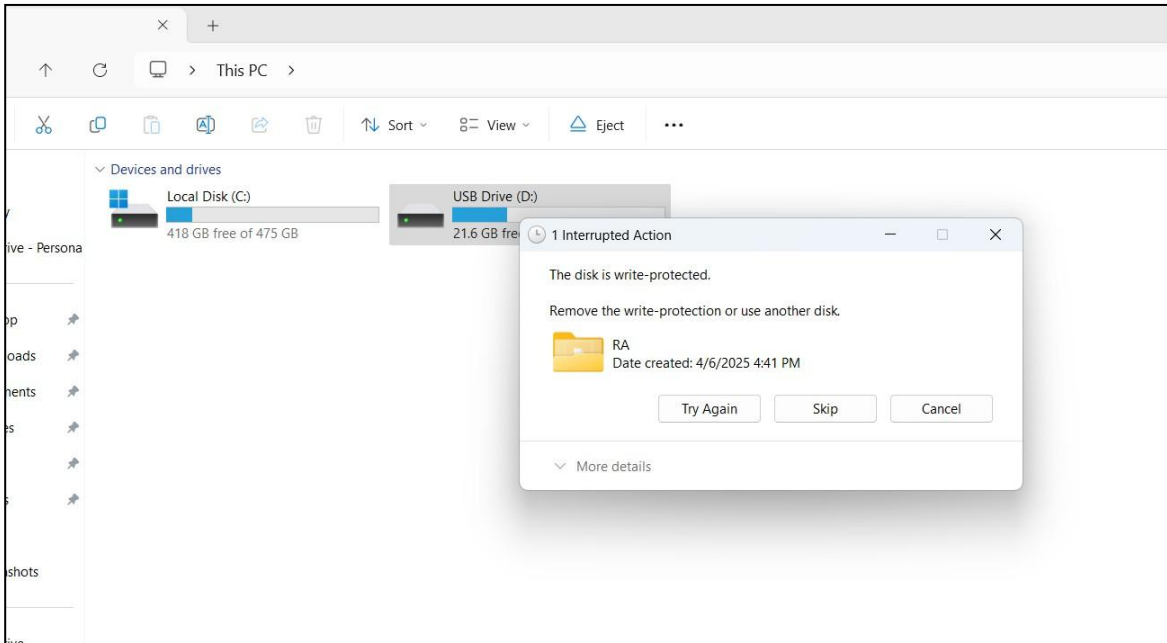
Disk attributes set successfully.

DISKPART> _
```

Confirm if the USB has been set to read-only

Method 1: Try copying a file

- Open **File Explorer**.
- Try **copying a new file** to the USB.
- Windows will show an **error message** like: "**The disk is write-protected. Remove the write protection or use another disk.**" This error confirms that the USB is read-only.



Method 2: Check using diskpart

- Open Command Prompt as Administrator
- Type: diskpart → list disk → select disk X (Replace X with USB disk number) → attributes disk

If disk current status is shown as "Current Read-only State": Yes, "Read-only": Yes, then your USB is successfully set as Read-Only.

```
Administrator: Command Prompt - diskpart
Leaving DiskPart...

C:\Windows\System32>diskpart

Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.26100.1150

Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: DESKTOP-GSKU117

DISKPART> list disk

   Disk ###  Status         Size       Free      Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0      Online          476 GB    2048 KB        *
   Disk 1      Online          29 GB         0 B

DISKPART> select disk 1

Disk 1 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> attributes disk
Current Read-only State : Yes
Read-only               : Yes
Boot Disk               : No
Pagefile Disk           : No
Hibernation File Disk   : No
Crashdump Disk          : No
Clustered Disk          : No

DISKPART>
```

Remove Write-Protection from USB

- Open Command Prompt as Administrator
- Type: diskpart → list disk → select disk X (Replace X with USB disk number)
- Type: attributes disk clear readonly.

```
Administrator: Command Prompt - diskpart
UNIQUEID - Displays or sets the GUID partition table (GPT) identifier or
          master boot record (MBR) signature of a disk.

DISKPART> exit

Leaving DiskPart...

C:\Windows\System32>diskpart

Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.26100.1150

Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: DESKTOP-GSKU117

DISKPART> list disk

   Disk ###  Status         Size       Free      Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0      Online          476 GB    2048 KB        *
   Disk 1      Online          29 GB         0 B

DISKPART> select disk 1

Disk 1 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> attributes disk clear readonly

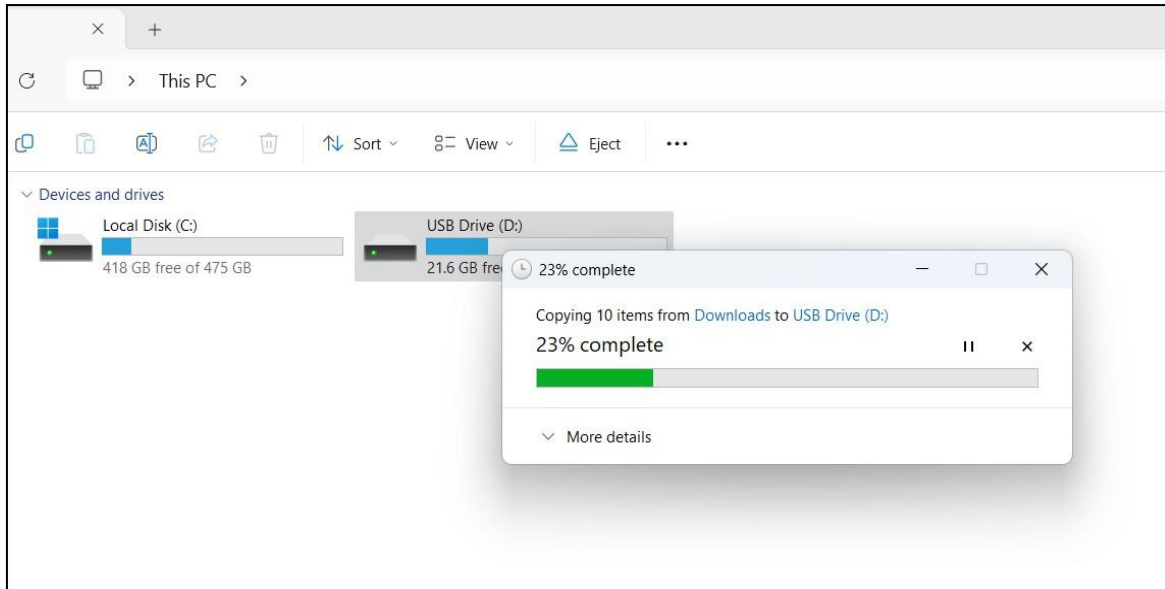
Disk attributes cleared successfully.

DISKPART>
```

Confirm USB is No Longer Write-Protected

Method 1: Try copying a file

- Open **File Explorer**.
- Try **copying a new file** to the USB.
- If the file copies successfully, your USB is writable again



Method 2: Check using diskpart

- Open Command Prompt as Administrator and type: diskpart → list disk → select disk X (Replace X with USB disk number) → attributes disk. If disk current status is shown as “Current Read-only State”: No, “Read-only”: No, then your USB is now writable.

```
Administrator: Command Prompt - diskpart
Leaving DiskPart...

C:\Windows\System32>diskpart

Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.26100.1150

Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: DESKTOP-GSKU1I7

DISKPART> list disk

   Disk ###  Status       Size      Free      Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0    Online       476 GB    2048 KB
   Disk 1    Online       29 GB      0 B

DISKPART> select disk 1

Disk 1 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> attributes disk
Current Read-only State : No
Read-only               : No
Boot Disk               : No
Pagefile Disk           : No
Hibernation File Disk   : No
Crashdump Disk          : No
Clustered Disk          : No

DISKPART>
```

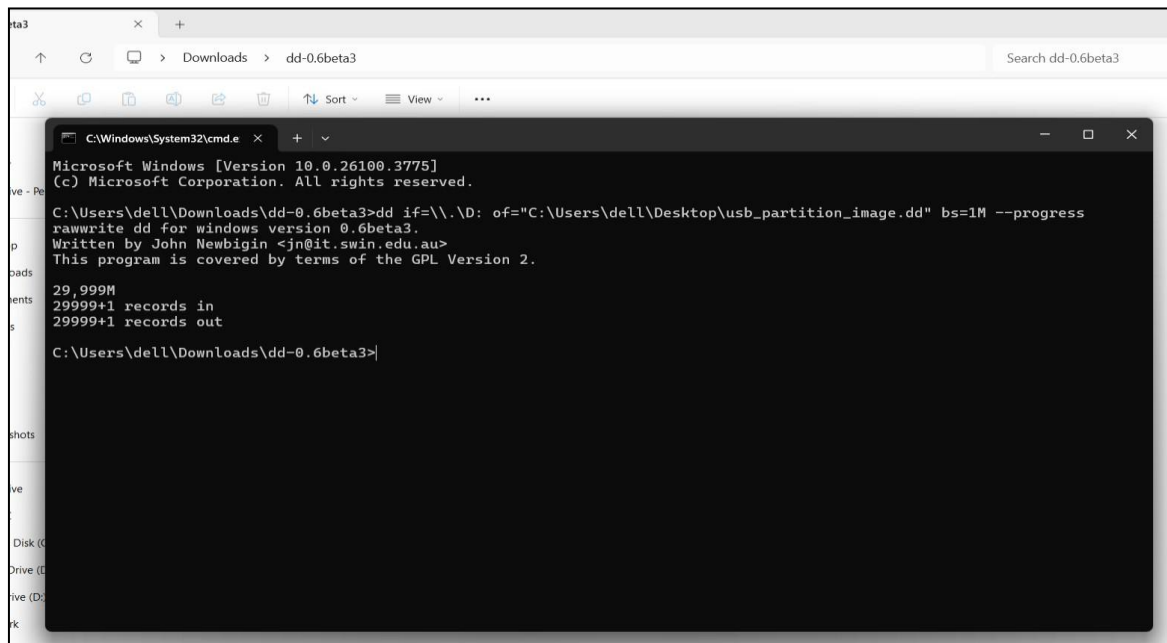
DD Imaging

To create a forensic image of the USB drive, the dd command-line tool is used through **Command Prompt** on a Windows system.

The 'dd-0.6beta3' tool is first downloaded and extracted then the following command is entered on the command prompt to begin imaging:

```
dd if=\\.\D: of="C:\Users\de\\Desktop\usb_partition_image.dd" bs=1M --progress
```

The image below shows the successful creation of the USB disk image.



Using Autopsy to Analyze the .dd Image

- Launch Autopsy
- Create a New Case
- Add the .dd Image as a Data Source
- Configure Ingest Modules
- Ingestion Progress will start, once completed we can extract files.

Below are the snapshots of the image extracted.

USB_Image_Case - Autopsy 4.22.1

Case View Tools Window Help

Add Data Source Images/Videos Communications Geolocation Timeline Discovery Generate Report Close Case

Listing

Metadata

Table Thumbnail Summary

Save Table as CSV

Source Name	S	C	O	Version	Date Created	Date Modified	Data Source	Descr
<> DrHusnainAli_3805_21633_1_3-How to read a pape				1.6	2013-08-02 18:23:46 PKT	2017-06-13 15:22:41 PKT	usb_partition_image.dd	A hyb
<> A hybrid deep learning model for efficient intrusio				1.7	2019-12-13 05:13:25 PKT	2019-12-13 05:13:55 PKT	usb_partition_image.dd	A syst
<> A systematic literature review of methods and data				1.7	2022-11-09 08:38:25 PKT	2022-11-09 08:39:06 PKT	usb_partition_image.dd	Attack
<> Attack classification of an intrusion detection syste				1.7	2021-04-19 17:11:25 PKT	2021-04-19 17:14:05 PKT	usb_partition_image.dd	A criti
<> Critical review.pdf				1.3	2021-02-18 15:21:13 PKT	2021-03-08 10:25:57 PKT	usb_partition_image.dd	Deep
<> Deep Learning-Based Intrusion Detection Systems				1.4	2021-07-22 06:06:02 PKT	2021-07-22 23:27:22 PKT	usb_partition_image.dd	
<> Design and development of a deep learning-basec				1.4	2022-07-07 11:59:21 PKT	2022-07-07 20:47:45 PKT	usb_partition_image.dd	

Hex Text Application Source File Metadata OS Account Data Artifacts Analysis Results Context Annotations Other Occurrences

Metadata

Name: /img_usb_partition_image.dd/RA/a systematic literature review of methods and datasets for anomaly-based network intrusion detection.pdf

Type: File System

MIME Type: application/pdf

Size: 2812154

File Name Allocation: Allocated

Metadata Allocation: Allocated

Modified: 2025-04-07 20:09:02 PKT

Accessed: 2025-04-27 00:00:00 PKT

Created: 2025-04-27 13:43:27 PKT

Changed: 0000-00-00 00:00:00

MDS: 750f83b6a3f4afb67fd5898f7dfe2a16

SHA-256: ba4884650c682c07f2376ca59986a4fe97a88bc48ac370cb0f7c02530147f5f9

USB_Image_Case - Autopsy 4.22.1

ase View Tools Window Help

Add Data Source Images/Videos Communications Geolocation Timeline Discovery Generate Report Close Case

Listing

Metadata

Table Thumbnail Summary

Save Table as CSV

List Name	Files with Hits
a.khraisat@federation.edu.au (1)	1
a.alazab@mit.edu.au (1)	1
dibyapb@rediff.com (3)	3
imtiazaullah@ontariotechu.net (1)	1
info@win-rar.com (1)	1
keshav@uwaterloo.ca (1)	1
lahnr@mst.edu (1)	1
litong@bjut.edu.cn (1)	1

Hex Text Application File Metadata OS Account Data Artifacts Analysis Results Context Annotations Other Occurrences

Unreviewed files

File System (2)

All (4)

MB File Size

Data Artifacts

Metadata (10)

Analysis Results

Keyword Hits (16)

Single Literal Keyword Search (0)

Single Regular Expression Search (0)

Email Addresses (16)

OS Accounts

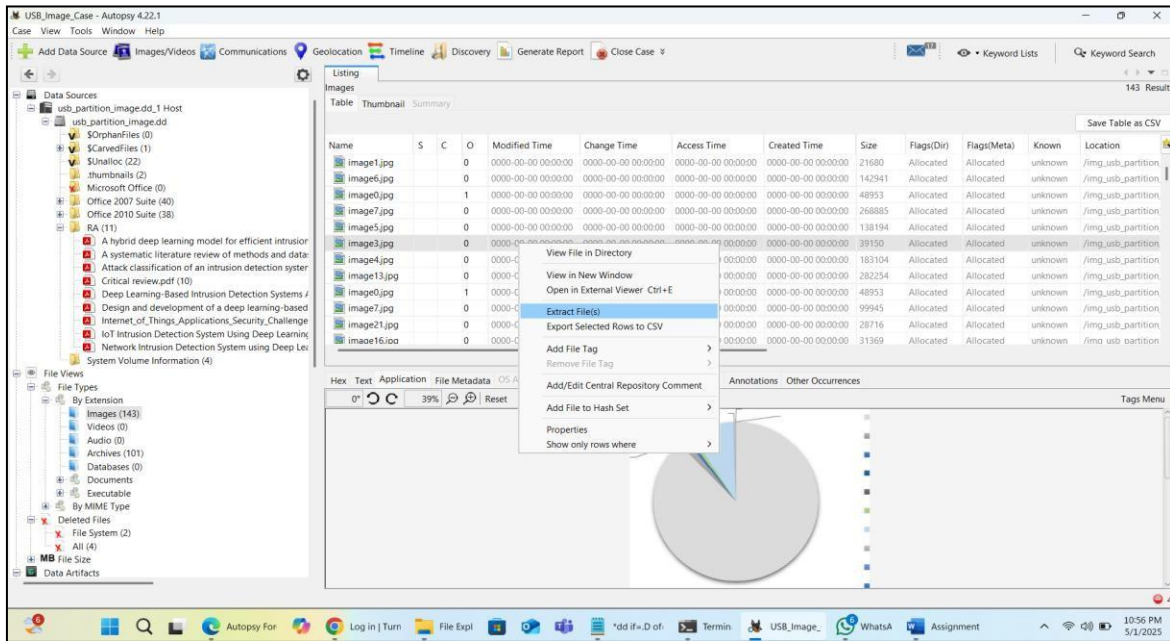
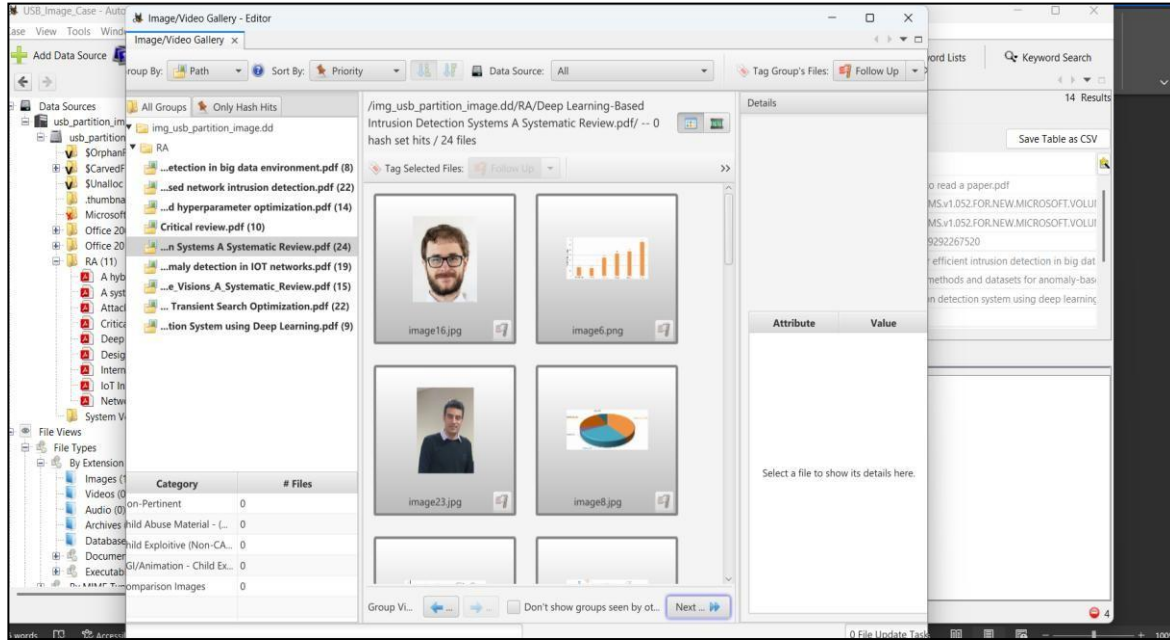
Tags

Score

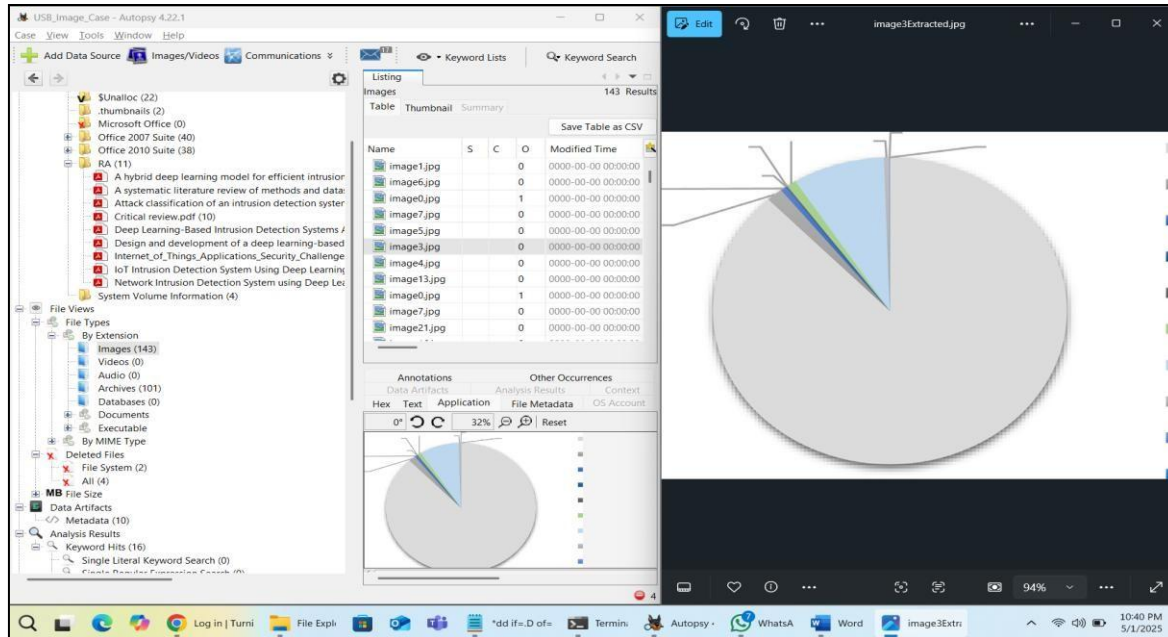
Bad Items (0)

Suspicious Items (14)

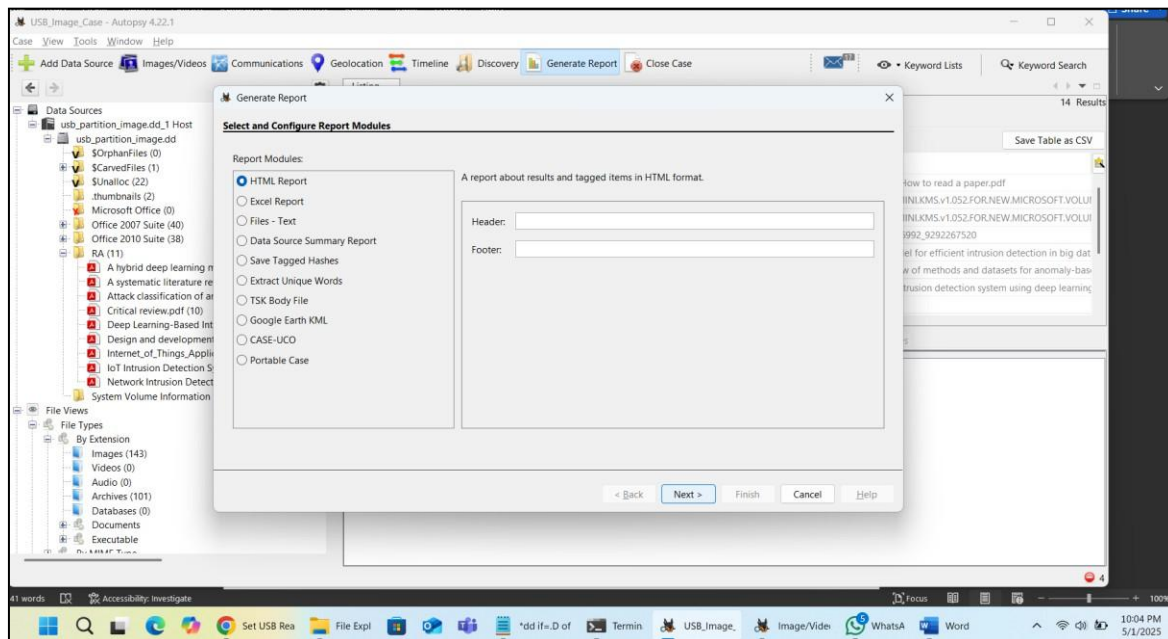
Reports



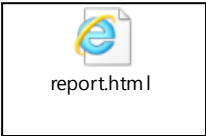
Extracted Image



We can export the report in any format, as shown below;



HTML Report for Forensic Case Summary



Autopsy Forensic Report for case x

File | C:/Users/dell/Desktop/USB_Image_Case/Reports/USB_Image_Case%20HTML%20Report%202005-01-2025-21-56-32/report.html

Autopsy Forensic Report

HTML Report generated on 2025/05/01 21:56:32

Case: USB_Image_Case
Case Number: 1
Number of data sources in case: 1
Examiner: Komal Devi Aruwani

Image Information:

usb_partition_image.dd

Timezone: Asia/Karachi
Path: C:\Users\dell\Desktop\usb_partition_image.dd

Software Information:

Autopsy Version:	4.22.1
Android Analyzer Module:	4.22.1
Android Analyzer (aLEAPP) Module:	4.22.1
Central Repository Module:	4.22.1
DJI Drone Analyzer Module:	4.22.1

Report Navigation

- Case Summary
- Data Source Usage (1)
- Keyword Hits (16)
- Metadata (10)
- Tagged Files (0)
- Tagged Images (0)
- Tagged Results (0)

Windows Taskbar: Log in | Tu, File Exp, Termin, Autopsy, Whats, Word, image3Ex, 10:45 PM 5/1/2025