Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Department of Computer Science

Module 1: Memory Acquisition with WinPMem

Objectives

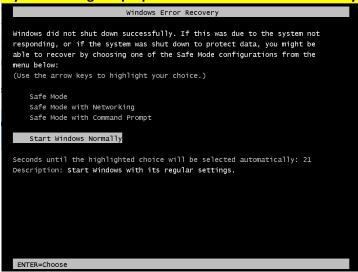
• Understand how to use WinPMem in the command line

Tasks

Task 0. Prepare a Windows 7 Virtual Machine

(While you could do this activity (Activity 10-1) on your host machine, the next module, Activity 10-2, will require using WinPMem on a Windows 7 machine to analyze malware so you will save time if you do this activity on a Windows 7 machine now.)

If you are using the prepared Windows 7 virtual machine you can skip to task 2



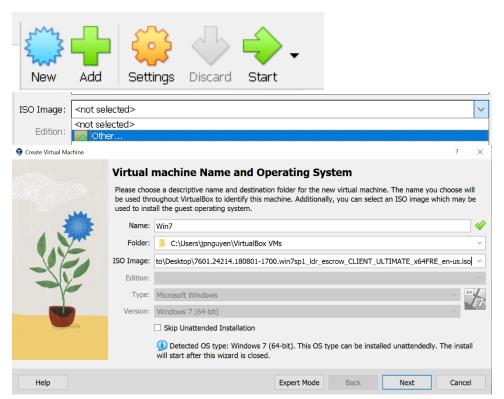
And If you see this screen on the prepared Windows 7 virtual machine, start windows normally by selecting it and hitting enter.

1. https://archive.org/details/windows7ultimatex64 201912

Click "Iso image" on the right to download the iso.



2. In VirtualBox, click New to create a new virtual machine and use the ISO image we just downloaded. Then click Next.

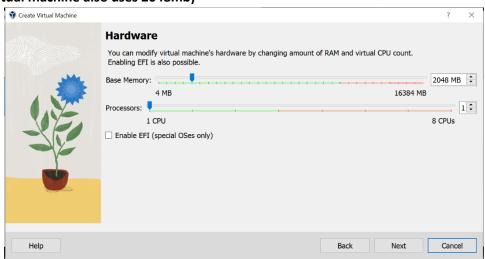


3. Choose any username and password. Then check the "Guest Additions" box

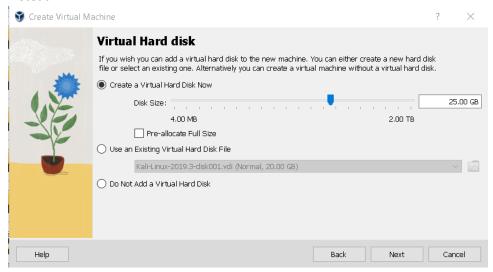


4. Keep the default 2048 mb and click Next.

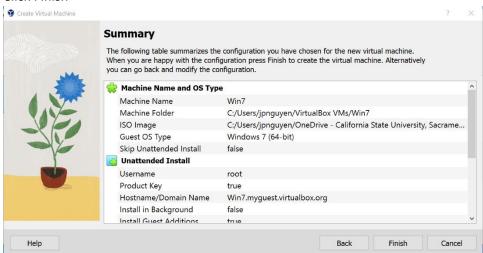
(Note: the prepared virtual machine also uses 2048mb)



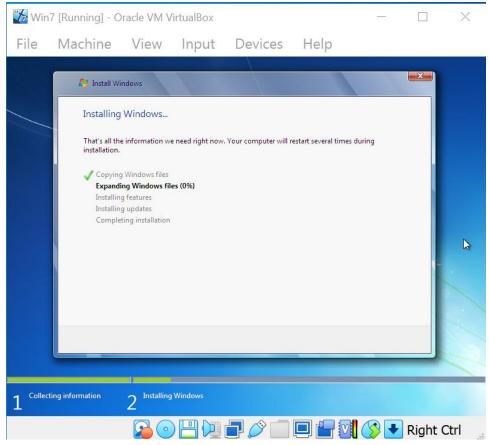
5. For the virtual hard disk, the default is 32GB but to save space you can use 25GB instead.



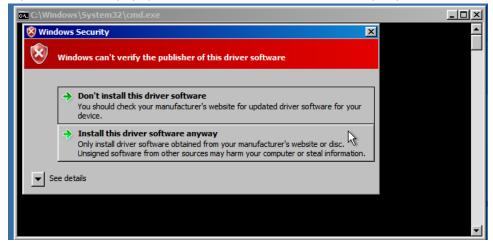
6. Click Finish



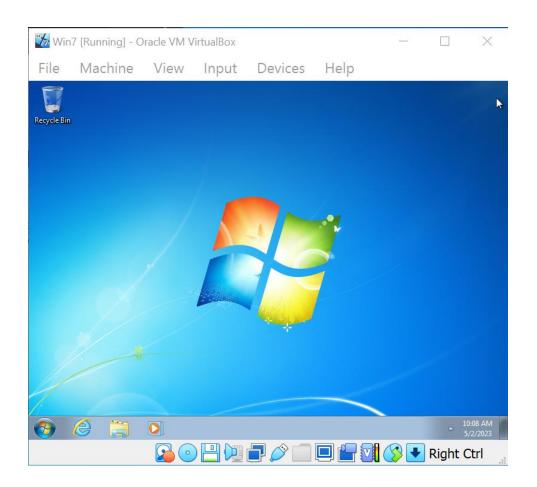
7. The virtual machine will automatically install Windows on start up.



8. If you receive this popup, click "Install this driver software anyway"



9. When it's done, the virtual machine should be ready to use.



Task 1. Download WinPMem from Github

1. The github page can be found here:

https://github.com/Velocidex/WinPmem

The download page can be found here:

https://github.com/Velocidex/WinPmem/releases

Release 4.0 RC2 (Latest)

This release fixes an issue with the drivers loading on recent Windows versions.

For this release we make available the old "mini" pmem imager based on the old 1.6 branch. This imager is very simple - it can only make raw images. The AFF4 based imager may be back in the future but for now we can produce RAW images.

We started to distribute Winpmem releases directly from this project as it is now separated from the Rekall project (which has been discontinued).

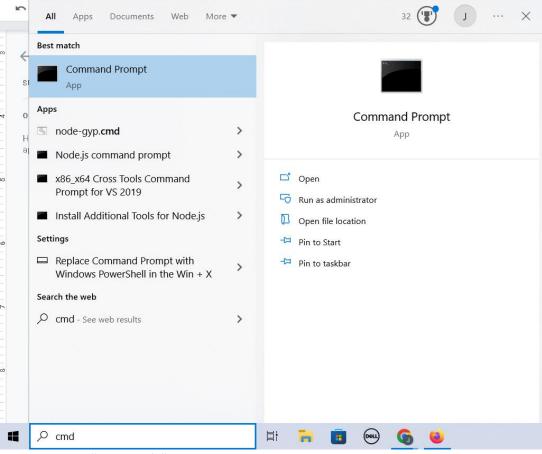
The new drivers implement Fast IO mode so should be faster than before.

Thanks

We would like to thank Emre Tinaztepe and Mehmet GÖKSU at Binalyze as well as Viviane Zwanger for making this release possible.



2. **(OPTIONAL, skip to step 5 if you know your PC's system type)** If you are not sure what system type your computer is, you can click the Windows icon on the task bar and type "cmd" or "command prompt"



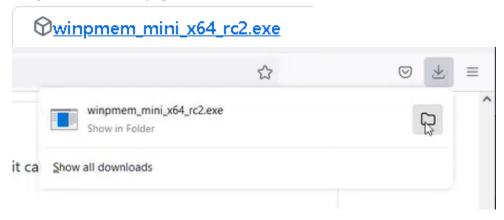
3. Now type in "systeminfo"

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
C:\Users\root>systeminfo
```

4. Scroll through the info until you find "System type" and it will show which version of windows you have.

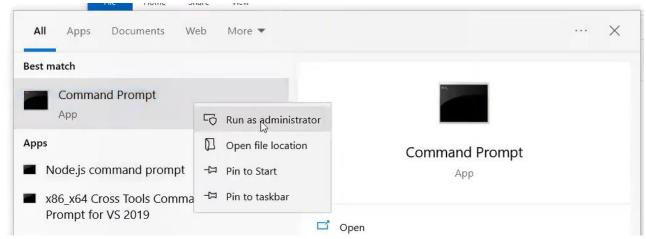
```
System Boot Time: 5/5/2023, 11:05:21 AM
System Manufacturer: innotek GmbH
System Model: VirtualBox
System Type: x64-based PC
Processor(s): 1 Processor(s) Installed.
```

5. Download the correct version of WinPMem by clicking the appropriate version on the github downloads page



Task 2. Run WinPMem in the command line

6. Open the command prompt by right clicking it and clicking "Run as administrator"



7. Now navigate to the directory you have WinPMem in by using the cd command. Your commands may look different since you might have a different username and path.

(If you are unsure of WinPMem's location, you can right click WinPMem and select Properties to see the location)

8. Type the name of the file you downloaded with the -h argument. In this screenshot, the x64 version was used, so this is the command that was typed: winpmem mini x64 rc2.exe -h

At the bottom of the information, you will see an example of how to write an image to physmem.raw.

```
C:\Users\root\Desktop>winpmem_mini_x64_rc2.exe -h
WinPmem64
Minpmem – A memory imager for windows.
Copyright Michael Cohen (scudette@gmail.com) 2012–2014.
Version 2.0.1 Oct 13 2020
Usage:
winpmem_mini_x64_rc2.exe [option] [output path]
Option:
       Load the driver and exit.
Unload the driver and exit.
[filename]
           Extract driver to this file (Default use random name).
   -h
           Display this help.
           Use MmMaploSpace method.
Use MmMaploSpace method.
Use \NDevice\PhysicalMemory method (Default for 32bit OS).
Use PTE remapping (AMD64 only - Default for 64bit OS).
   –w
–Ø
 NOTE: an output filename of — will write the image to STDOUT.
Examples:
winpmem_mini_x64_rc2.exe physmem.raw
 Writes an image to physmem.raw
C:\Users\root\Desktop>
```

9. Using the information found by using the —h argument, write an image to a raw file. The following screenshot shows the command "winpmem_mini_x64_rc2.exe physmem.raw" being used to start winpmem. This step may take awhile to load.

```
C:\Users\root\Desktop>winpmem_mini_x64_rc2.exe physmem.raw
WinPmem64
Extracting driver to C:\Users\root\AppData\Local\Temp\pme1DC0.tmp
Driver Unloaded.
Loaded Driver C:\Users\root\AppData\Local\Temp\pme1DC0.tmp.
Deleting C:\Users\root\AppData\Local\Temp\pme1DC0.tmp
The system time is: 18:21:51
Will generate a RAW mage
```

```
00% 0x0000000 .
copy_memory
- start: 0x1000
- end: 0x9f000

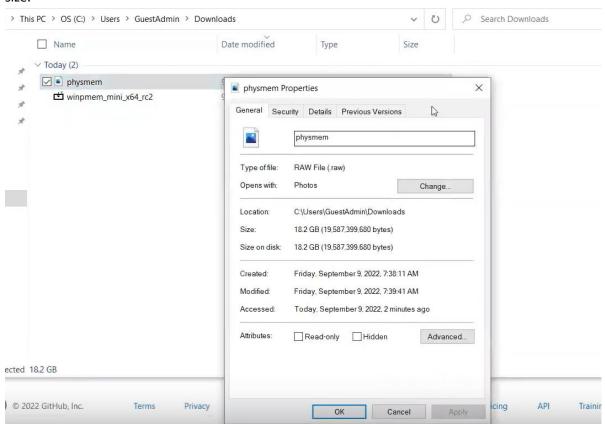
00% 0x00001000 .
Padding from 0x0009F000 to 0x00100000
pad
- length: 0x61000

00% 0x0009F000 .
copy_memory
- start: 0x100000
- end: 0x3fff0000

00% 0x00100000 .
The system time is: 18:22:13
Driver Unloaded.

C:\Users\root\Desktop>_
```

10. Now we can see the .raw file in the same location that we had WinPMem in. Right click the file and click properties to see information on your memory dump, such as the size.



Questions:

- 1. Provide a screenshot of step 10 to prove that you have used WinPMem. Compare the size of the memory dump to the size of the ram we used in Task 0, step 4.
- 2. What does the –h argument do?
- 3. Explore the github page of WinPMem (linked in Task 1) and read the information provided. How many different independent methods are there to create a memory dump?
- 4. How would you change the command "winpmem_mini_x64_rc2.exe physmem.raw" to make a raw file called "clean.raw"?
- 5. What argument would you use in the command line to turn on write mode for WinPMem?

Deliverable:

Explicitly answer all questions above one by one. Provide screenshots as necessary. You will be evaluated based on the correctness, completeness, clarity and quality of English writing.