

Digital Forensics - Lab 4

Class No :	CH2021221000516	Slot :	L49 + L50
Course Code :	CSE4004	Faculty Name :	Nagaraj SV

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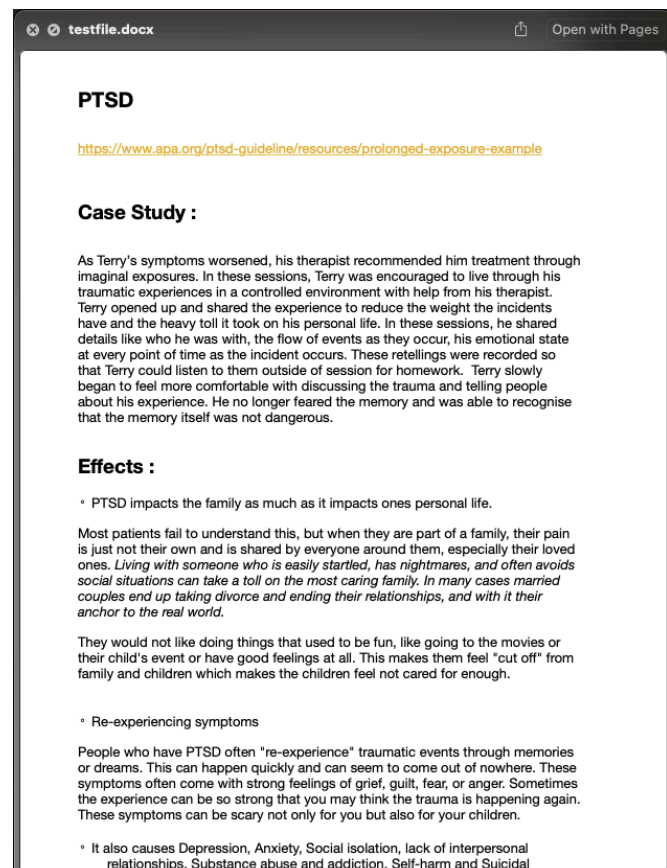
- 26 August 2021

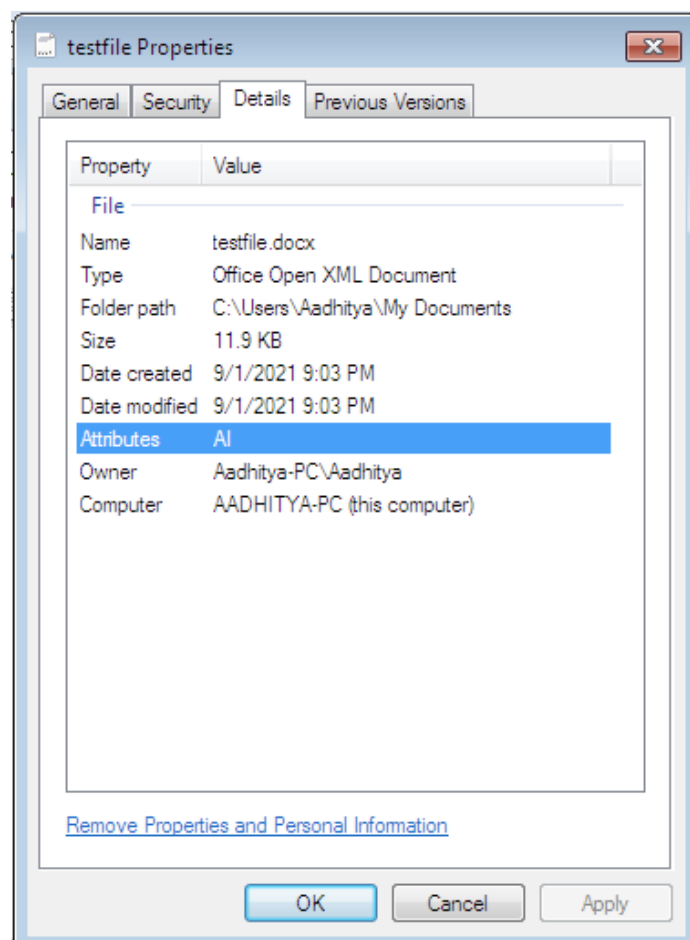
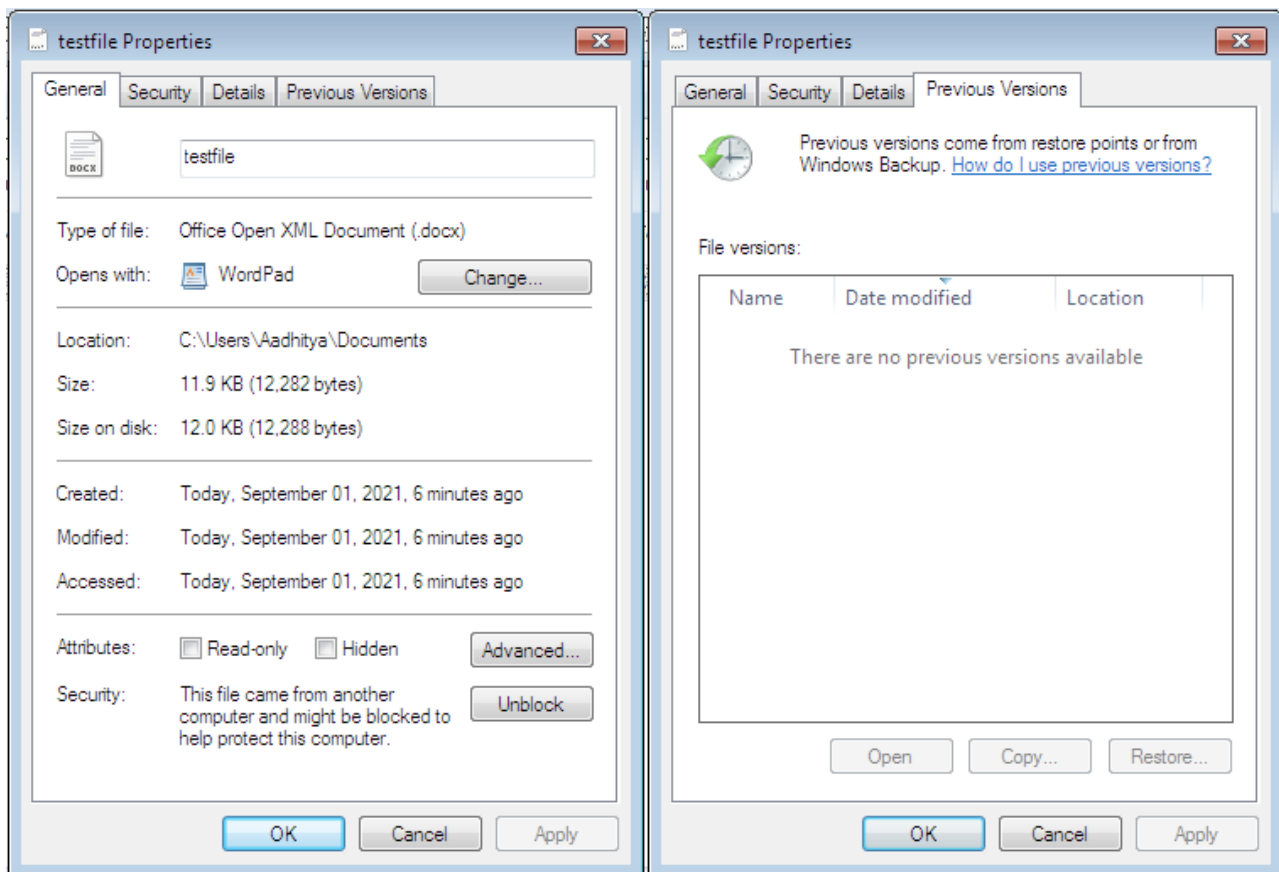
Question 1 :

Using a Microsoft Office 2007 and later DOCX file, and view its properties in windows.

In order to proceed with this experiment, we first create a word document with some sample content as follows :

With this done, we then right click and open its properties in the windows operating system, on opening, the properties of the file can be viewed, which includes details like the location, type, size of the file, the last modified and created dates and times, the file permissions for different groups of users, etc.

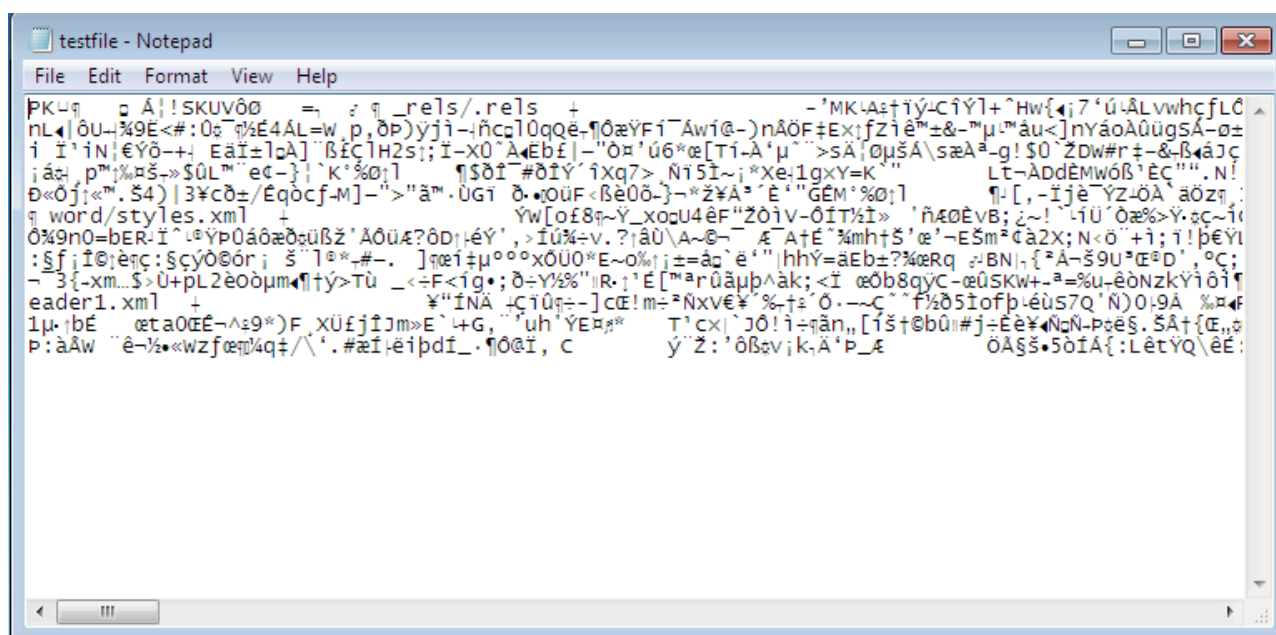




Question 2 :

Open a Microsoft Office 2007 and later DOCX file using a nominal text editor, like notepad in the Windows OS, and view its how such a file occurs in such an editor.

We utilise the same file as created above for this experiment, we open this docx file using the notepad application, and the file is viewed as follows :



We can notice that the file when opened in a text editor is in a raw version and is just a bunch of random symbols which do not make any sense. The spaces in the middle are just non printable characters, and overall this is the encoded format of the file.

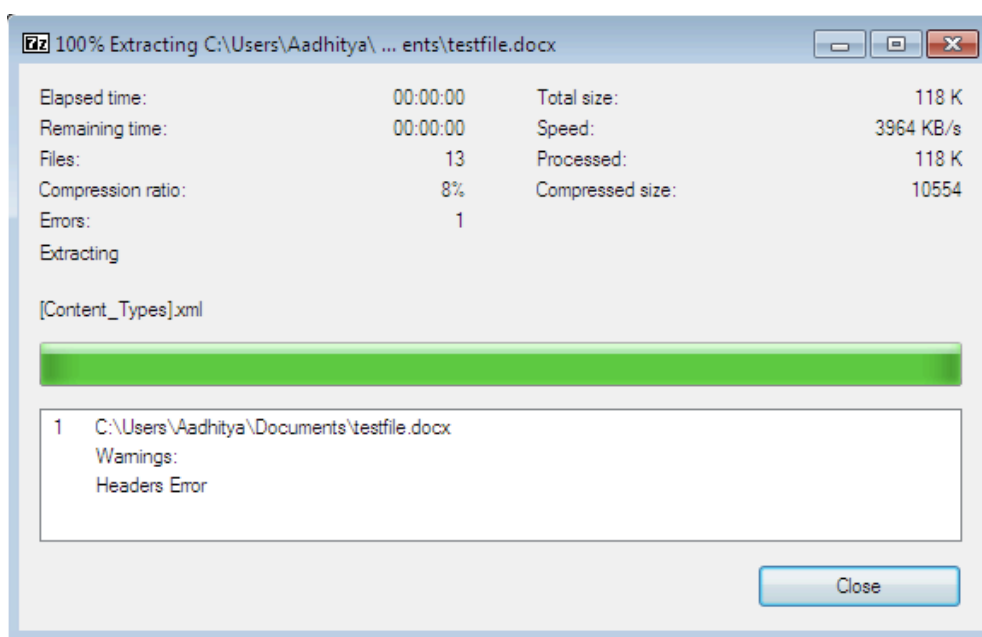
The text entered into a docx file is in a formatted and encoded version, and when this is opened using a text editor, it displays only a raw version of the file which is filled with just symbols.

With this, we can conclude that we cannot open all files using a text editor, because it would open them in an encoded format with no meaning.

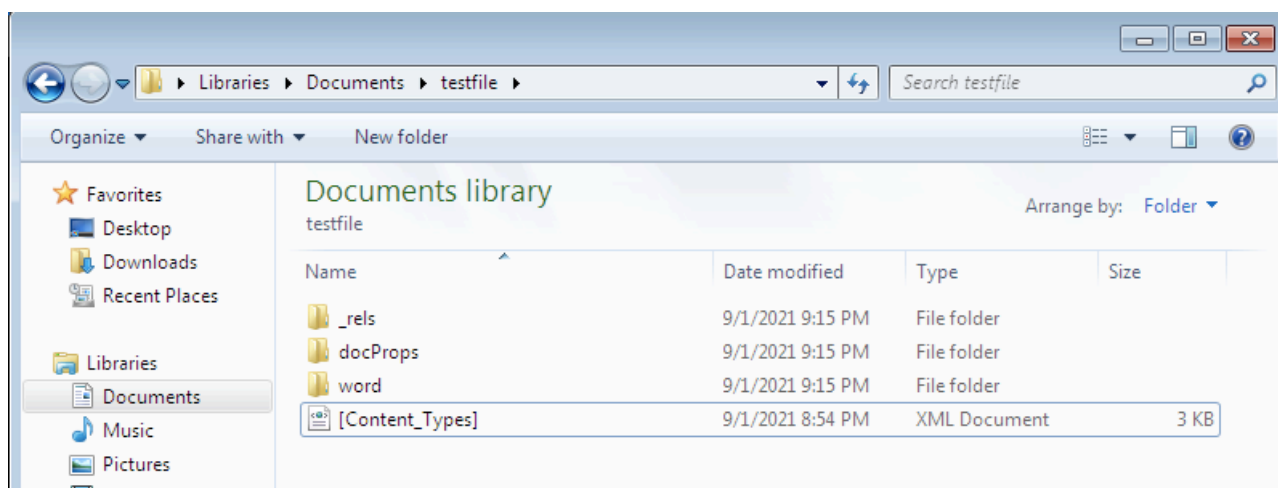
Question 3 :

Open a Microsoft Office 2007 using any unzipping software, and now try to view the raw files, and notice if there is any difference in this case.

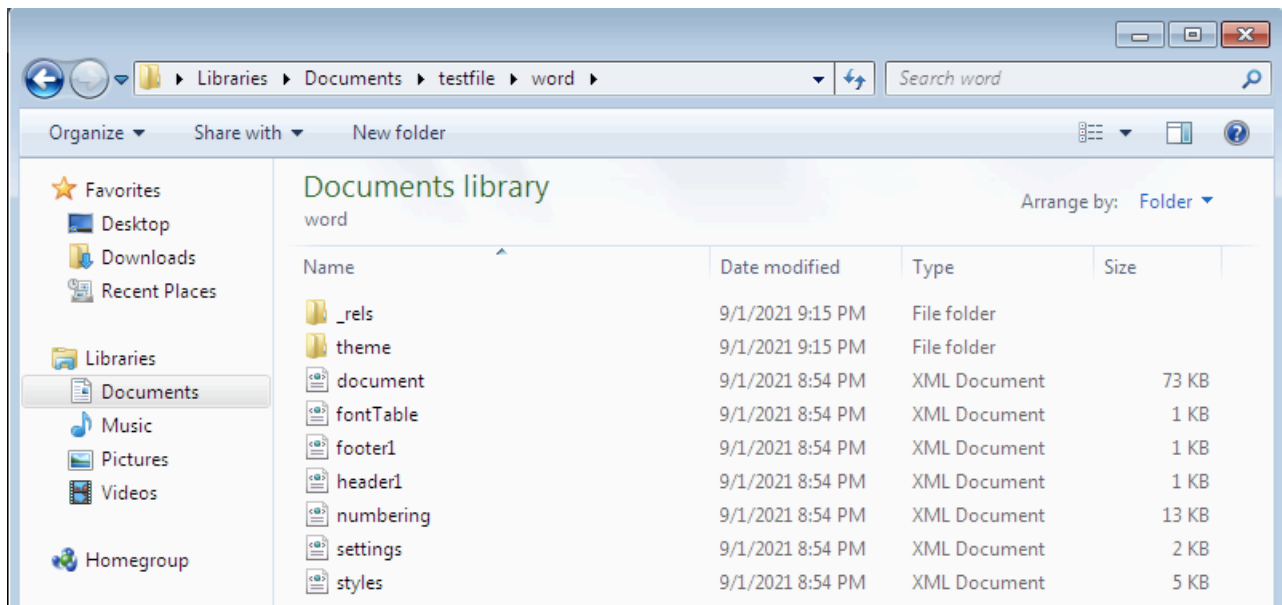
We utilise the same file as created above for this experiment, we use the 7zip unzipping software application to extract the file. The extraction process is shown below :



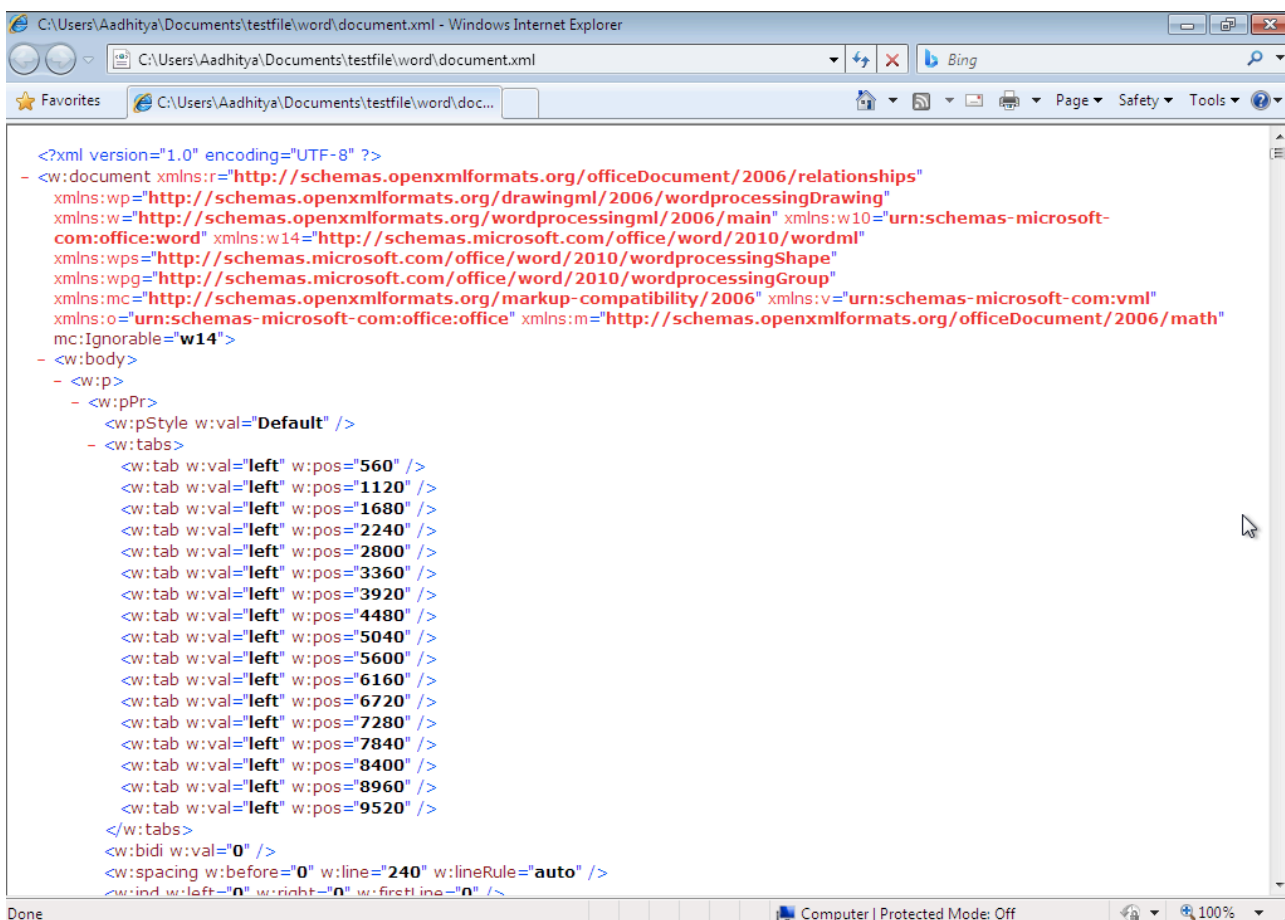
Once the file has been unzipped, we have a host of files and folders as follows :



This is how an docx file occurs with all the support files needed to display the file in a proper formatted version inside a word processing application. Let us now move into the "word" folder to open this file in a better manner than done in the previous question.



In order to open a more detailed version of the document, we open the “document.xml” file found here, and this file is opened using an browser and it looks in a standard manner as follows :



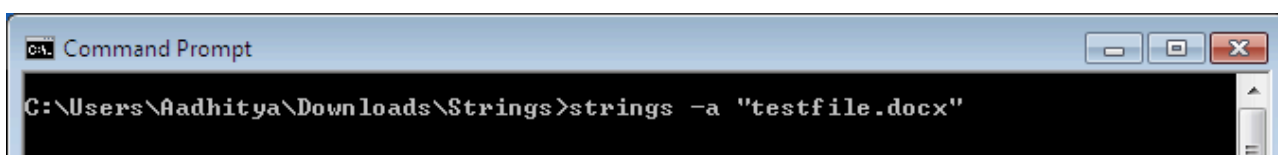
Question 4 :

Use the “strings” utility available in the Microsoft web site to scan the file you pass it for UNICODE (or ASCII) strings of a default length of 3 or more UNICODE (or ASCII) characters.

We utilise the same file as created above for this experiment, we download the strings library from the link :

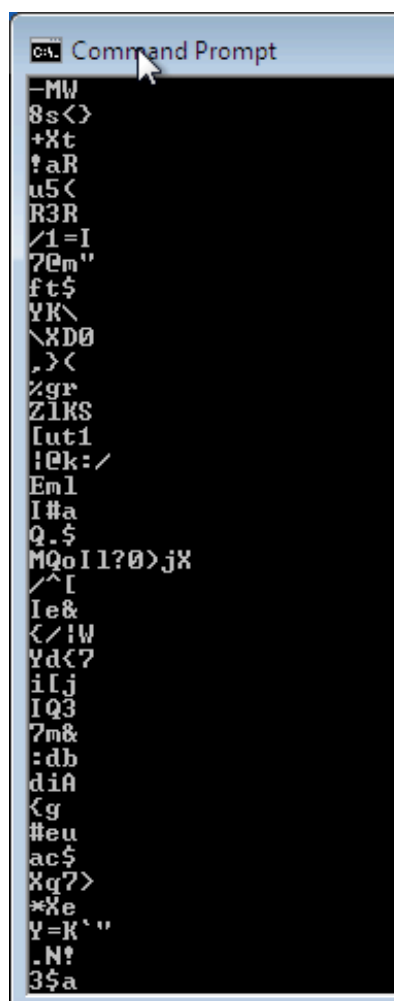
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sysinternals/downloads/strings>

and run the command with the terminal opened in that folder and note that the docx file is also placed in the same folder for convenience.

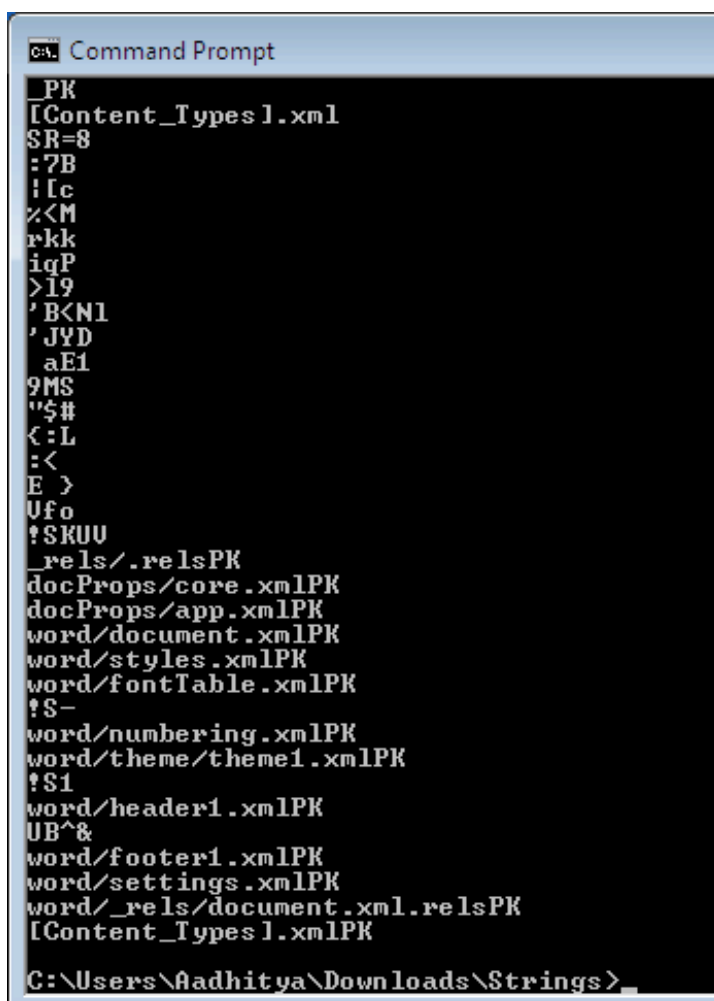


```
Command Prompt
C:\Users\Aadhitya\Downloads\Strings>strings -a "testfile.docx"
```

When the command is entered, it searches through the complete file and returns the matched instances. A few instances are listed below :



```
Command Prompt
-MW
8s<
+Xt
!aR
u5<
R3R
/1=I
70m"
ft$
YK\
\XD0
,)<
%gr
ZlKS
[ut1
!0k:/
Em1
I#a
Q.$
MQoI1?0>j%
/^I
Ie&
</!W
Yd<7
iLj
IQ3
7m&
:db
diA
<g
#eu
ac$
Xq7>
*Xe
Y=K`"
.N!
3$a
```



```
Command Prompt
_PK
[Content_Types].xml
SR=8
:7B
!lc
%<M
rkk
iqP
>19
'B<N1
'JYD
aE1
9MS
"$#
<:L
:<
E >
Ufo
!SKUU
_rels/.relsPK
docProps/core.xmlPK
docProps/app.xmlPK
word/document.xmlPK
word/styles.xmlPK
word/fontTable.xmlPK
!S-
word/numbering.xmlPK
word/theme/theme1.xmlPK
!S1
word/header1.xmlPK
UB^&
word/footer1.xmlPK
word/settings.xmlPK
word/_rels/document.xml.relsPK
[Content_Types].xmlPK
C:\Users\Aadhitya\Downloads\Strings>
```

Question 5 :

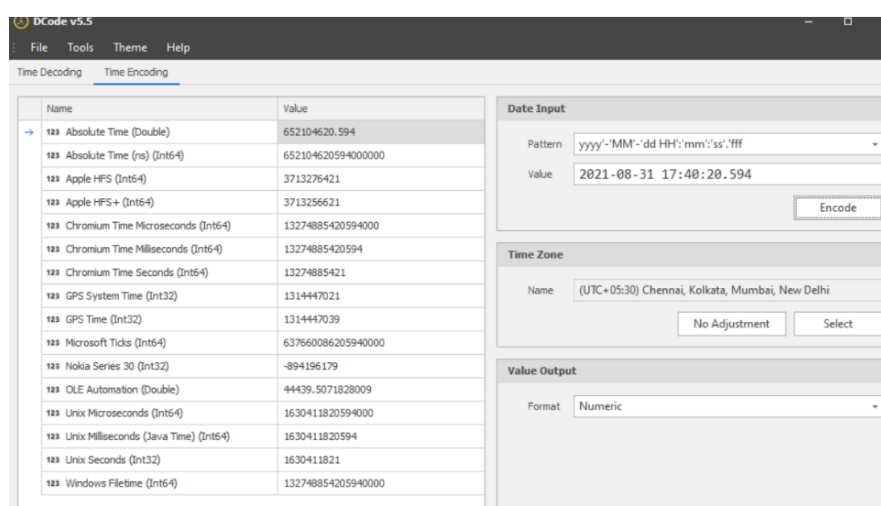
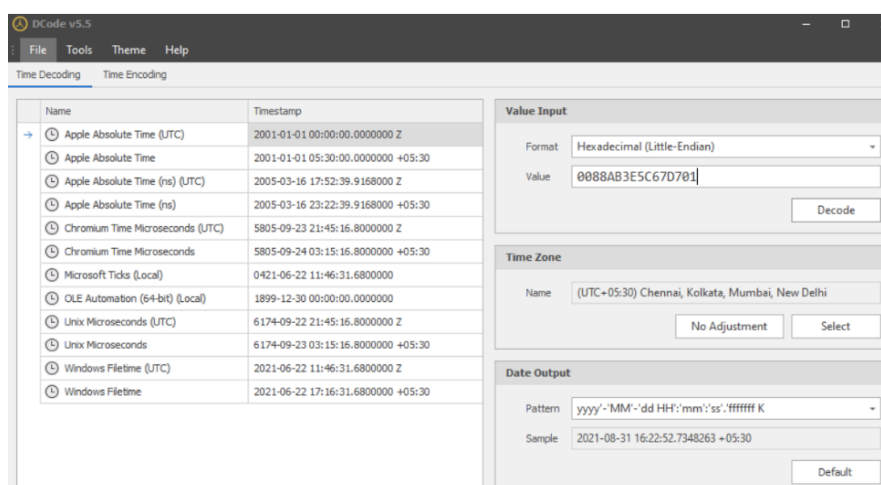
Use the “DCode” forensic tool to encode and decode the dates in which the chosen files were modified. Use the above tool to see if you can say something about the revision history of MS Word documents.

We utilise the same file as created above for this experiment, we download the strings library from the link :

<https://www.digital-detective.net/dcode/>

and run this application after installing it in a windows os computer.

We then use the date in which file used above was created, and then perform encoding to get an encoded hash string of the date, we then feed in the same string to the decoder and verify if the final date obtained matches with the initially taken date.



We can notice that the dates are processed correctly in both cases, and thus the encoding and decoding process of dates has been verified.

CONCLUSION

In this lab experiments, we have dealt with and seen the properties of word documents (DOCX) files, like viewing it under different circumstances, using different tools and also performing date encoding and decoding which provide useful functionalities for efficient and ease of forensic analysis.