

Collaborative Discussion 2

Peer Response

Hi Helen,

Thank you for your contribution to Discussion 2 on the vulnerabilities of TrueCrypt, and particularly the ontology. It is well-structured and clear, with a range of relations demonstrated, which are not necessarily hierarchical in nature. The most significant benefit of an ontology is that it is able to capture useful data points and relationships among them (It perhaps would be beneficial to add another layer of common attributes to the ontology, for example memory, a computer system attribute, given multiple issues listed in the ontology are associated with it.

Additionally, a “fixedBy” association would be able to quickly identify most common solutions to the vulnerabilities and equally demonstrate where no fixes currently exist. For example, for the paging file issue, it is suggested to ensure the whole drive is encrypted (Tech ARP, n.d.).

I agree with the overall conclusion that TrueCrypt should not be recommended for use, given how outdated it is at this point in time. However, it is curious that ten years onward, no major flaws have surfaced and it continues to be highly discussed among the community (Privacy Guides, 2024). It has raised the discussion that many current solutions such as BitLocker are not fully sufficient and continue to present significant vulnerabilities to this day (Hernandez, 2024). The argument still stands that TrueCrypt most likely does not fit with the developments in current software and hardware systems.

References:

Hedder Information Management (2023) Taxonomies vs. Ontologies. Hedder Information Management. Available from: <http://www.hedden-information.com/taxonomies-vs-ontologies/> [Accessed 8 January 2025]

Hernandez, J. (2024) What is BitLocker: features, limitations, and how to use it. Prey Project. Available from: <https://preyproject.com/blog/bitlocker> [Accessed 8 January 2025]

Privacy Guides (2024) Why people still believe Truecrypt is much better than Veracrypt?. Privacy Guides. Available from: <https://discuss.privacyguides.net/t/why-people-still-believe-truecrypt-is-much-better-than-veracrypt/18295> [Accessed 8 January 2025]

Tech ARP (n.d.) How To Optimize Your SSD. Tech ARP Archive. Available from: <https://archive.techarp.com/showarticlef74b.html?artno=817&pgno=5> [Accessed 8 January 2025]