

Comparison of Referenced Research Papers

Name of the Paper	Authors / Source	Focus	Methodologies	Key Findings	Relevance to Your Proposal
Privacy and Security of the Windows Registry	Amoruso (UCF Dissertation)	Security and privacy of the Windows Registry	Comprehensive dissertation, technical registry analysis, vulnerabilities, and privacy aspects	Detailed exploration of registry forensics, artifact persistence, and detection risks	Informs on forensic footprint and registry manipulation techniques for covert access
Microsoft SAM File Readability CVE-2021-36934: What You Need to Know	Condon, Rapid7	CVE-2021-36934 SeriousSAM vulnerability in the SAM database	Real-world vulnerability disclosure, proof-of-concept analysis	Allowed non-admin users access to SAM and SYSTEM files; highlights offline attack surface	Direct insight into SAM attacks, critical for designing stealthy boot or offline bypass
Attacks Against Windows PXE Boot Images	Elling, NetSPI	PXE Boot images attacks & Windows boot-level vulnerabilities	Practical pentesting blog with technical walkthroughs	Demonstrates how attackers exploit Windows boot environments and PXE images	Supports bootable USB approach and identifies risks in Windows boot process
Bypassing Local Windows Authentication to Defeat Full Disk Encryption	Haken, Black Hat	Bypassing local Windows auth & defeating disk encryption	Conference whitepaper, threat modelling, exploit demonstration	By exploiting local (offline) authentication flaws, attackers can access encrypted systems	Reinforces physical access threat vector and validates premise of red-team boot attacks
Security Analysis and Bypass User Authentication Bound to Device of Windows Hello in the Wild	Kim & Choi, Wiley	Windows Hello biometric auth bypass	Peer-reviewed research paper, real-world attack experiments	Device-bound authentication can be bypassed if biometric data is not hardware protected	Shows feasibility of alternative (non-password) authentication bypasses
Automating Privilege Escalation with Deep Reinforcement Learning	Kujanpää et al., arXiv	Privilege escalation via deep reinforcement learning	Simulation, machine learning for escalation	Automation reveals overlooked escalation routes in complex systems	Suggests AI-driven options for red team toolsets and persistent access methods
Study of bypassing Microsoft Windows Security using the MITRE CALDERA Framework	Mohamed, F1000Research & Alabdulatif & Taherdoost	Using MITRE CALDERA for Windows security bypass	Peer-reviewed case study with adversarial emulation	CALDERA enables undetected bypass of Windows controls, persistence, and low-noise operations	Powerful precedent and framework for your red-team operational angle

USB Artifact Analysis Using Windows Event Viewer, Registry and File System Logs	Neyaz & Shashidhar, MDPI	USB artifacts in Windows (logs, registry, filesystem)	Experimentation with forensic tools	USB drives leave identifiable artifacts, but detection can be minimized	Directly relates to your forensic stealth & persistent access with bootable USBs
Study on Security Auditing of Windows Registry Database	Tashi, IJSTE	Auditing Windows Registry Database for security	Security auditing, registry analysis	Outlines methods and limits of registry-based detection and security logging	Helps define how to minimize detection after registry/credential manipulation
Memory Forensics: comparing the correctness of memory captures from locked Windows 10 machines using different boot capture vectors	Zargari & Dyson, LAJC	Memory forensics on locked Windows 10 captured via boot	Empirical study, comparative analysis of capture vectors	Boot-vectored memory captures can expose authentication material	Relevant for post-exploit, offline forensic analysis and persistence evaluation
Security Accounts Manager Database	ScienceDirect, SAM overview	Technical underpinning of SAM database	Technical resource, conceptual	Details structure, interaction, and security models for local Windows accounts	Background knowledge for manipulating SAM without detection
Security Analysis and Bypass User Authentication Bound to Device of Windows Hello in the Wild	IEEE Xplore, Windows Hello auth bypass	Windows Hello & device-bound authentication vulnerabilities	Security analysis, technical review	Points to persistent weaknesses in device-bound and biometric authentication	Extends your work beyond password-based attacks to next-gen authentication
AXREL: Automated Extracting Registry and Event Logs for Windows Forensics	IEEE Xplore, Registry/Event Log Extraction (AXREL)	Automated forensic artifact extraction	Describes forensic tool and methodology	Improved techniques for detecting hidden/persistent changes in Windows	Helps evaluate which covert bypass methods may or may not leave artifacts
Penetration Testing on Windows to Preserve Security	Brazilian Journals	Survey of penetration testing on Windows login bypass	Overview, compilation of tests on various bypass techniques	Documents threshold, methods, and limitations of offline/online bypass	Practical foundation for comparing methods in real-world offensive security