



Advanced artifact analysis

Toolset, Artifact analysis training material
November 2014







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Main Objective	During the course of the exercise the students will learn how to obtain memory images from different sources and to analyse them. Both Windows and Linux systems will be covered.					
Targeted Audience	CERT staff involved with the technical analysis of incidents, especially those dealing with forensics. In-depth knowledge of operating system concepts is a prerequisite. Python knowledge is helpful but not required.					
Total Duration	6 – 7.5 hours					
	Introduction to the exercise (Memory forensics)	1.5 hours				
	Task 1: Acquiring memory images	1 hour				
	Task 2: Basic Windows memory analysis	1-1.5 hours				
Time Schedule	Task 3: Basic Linux memory analysis	1-1.5 hours				
	Task 4: Obtaining and analysing malware from memory	1-1.5 hours				
	Summary of the exercise	0.5 hours				
Frequency	Once per person					



1 General description

During the course of this exercise, the students will learn how to acquire and analyse memory images from Windows and Linux operating systems with the Volatility toolkit⁴. Students that have completed the "Digital forensics" course may already be familiar with some of the concepts covered in this exercise.

At the beginning, the trainer will introduce the basic concepts of memory forensics, such as acquisition of memory and its analysis. Additionally, the students will be given basic information on how to use Volatility.⁴

In the first part, the students will learn how to acquire memory images from Windows and Linux operating systems.

In the second and third part, the students will perform basic analysis tasks while working with Windows and Linux memory dumps.

In the last part, the students are confronted with advanced analysis techniques, such as identifying and isolating a malware sample from a given memory image.

The exercise can be held with all parts in sequence. But it is also possible to hold only the introduction, together with either the Windows or the Linux parts to focus on only one operating system or if the time frame doesn't allow for a full training, additionally there will also be an open discussion at the end of the exercise.

1.1 Prerequisites

It is assumed that the students are familiar with

- The general process of incident response and digital forensics. 6,7,8,9
- Basic concepts from C / Assembler programming such as low level data types (char, int), arrays, structures, etc.^{10,11,12,13,14}
- General operating system concepts such as processes, threads, stack, heap, kernel, memory management, etc. 15,16,17,18

⁴ http://www.volatilityfoundation.org/ (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁵ https://www.enisa.europa.eu/activities/cert/support/exercise, exercise no 24 (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁶ https://www.enisa.europa.eu/activities/cert/background (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁷ https://www.enisa.europa.eu/activities/cert/support (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁸ http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-61r2.pdf (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁹ http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-86/SP800-86.pdf (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

¹⁰ Mitchell: "Concepts in Programming Languages", Cambrigde University Press, ISBN 0521780985

¹¹ Van Roy, et al.: "Concepts, Techniques, and Models of Computer Programming", MIT Press, ISBN: 9780262220699

¹² http://www.cprogramming.com/(last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

¹³ http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/C Programming (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

¹⁴ http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/X86 Disassembly (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

¹⁵ Silberschatz, et al.: "Operating System Concepts", 9th ed., Wiley, ISBN-13: 978-1118063330

¹⁶Russinovich, et al.: "Windows Internals", 6th ed., Microsoft Press, ISBN-13: 978-0735648739 (part1), ISBN-13: 978-0735665873 (part 2), http://technet.microsoft.com/de-de/sysinternals/bb963901.aspx (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

¹⁷ Wolfgang Mauerer: "Professional Linux Kernel Architecture", Wrox, ISBN-13: 978-0470343432

¹⁸ Bovet, et al.: "Understanding the Linux Kernel", 3rd ed., O'Reilly, ISBN-13: 978-0596005658



• Standard Unix command line tools, such as grep, sort, etc.

1.2 Tools overview

The following section gives an overview about the tools used in this exercise.

1.2.1 Volatility

Volatility is an open source framework for the extraction of digital artifacts from volatile memory (RAM) samples. It is now (2014) developed and supported by The Volatility Foundation.¹⁹

1.2.2 Python for Volatility

Having the Python²⁰ interpreter and its libraries installed is a prerequisite to running Volatility. At least version 2.6 (better 2.7) is required. A Linux or Windows operating system with x86 or x64 architecture is preferred although Volatility should run on any system that supports Python. Python 3 is currently (as of version 2.3.1 and 2.4) not supported.

Furthermore, several Python libraries are needed by Volatility that typically are not installed automatically when installing the main Python package. Teachers should check for the presence of these packages when assembling their own analysis system.

1.2.3 PyCrypto

The Python Cryptography Toolkit²¹ supplies hashing and encryption algorithms as well as encryption protocols and other routines, such as random number generators. It is needed by the Isadump and hashdump Volatility plug-ins.

1.2.4 PIL

The Python Imaging Library²² supplies image manipulation routines for many different formats. This library is needed by the screenshots Volatility plug-in.

1.2.5 **Distorm3**

A disassembler library for x86/AMD64 architectures.²³The library converts a binary data stream into assembler instructions, represented as python data structures. The library is needed by Volatility's apihooks, impscan, callbacks, volshell, linux_volshell and mac_volshell plug-ins.

1.2.6 Yara

A tool to classify malware, i. e. build malware signatures.²⁴ It is needed by the "yarascan" Volatility command.

The packages may be included as part of the Python package on the system or installed as a dependency when installing Volatility through a package management system (dep, yum, YaST, etc.). When installing manually, they need to be downloaded and installed prior to installing Volatility.

¹⁹ http://www.volatilityfoundation.org/ (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

²⁰ https://www.python.org/ (last visited 19. 8. 2014)

²¹ https://www.dlitz.net/software/pycrypto (last visited 19.8. 2014)

²² http://www.pythonware.com/products/pil (last visited 19.8. 2014)

²³ https://code.google.com/p/distorm (last visited 19.8. 2014)

²⁴ https://plusvic.github.io/yara/ (last visited 23. 9. 2014)



1.3 Memory acquisition tools

Although there are many tools for memory acquisition, the exercise will focus on two open source versions, one for Windows and one for Linux.

1.3.1 WinPmem, MacPmem

An open source memory acquisition tool with kernel driver signed by Microsoft.²⁵ It can be used on 32 and 64-bit versions of Windows, tools were developed by Michael Cohen (Google), but not included in the distribution. It must be downloaded separately from the Volatility source repository. This tool is needed for task one.

1.3.2 LiME

Linux Memory Extractor²⁶ – Memory acquisition for Linux/Android systems. It is not included in the distribution, and must be downloaded separately from Google code. It is needed in task one.

1.4 Other tools

The following tools are not strictly necessary to complete the exercise but they will ease some of the tasks considerably.

1.4.1 Strings

A tool to search for printable strings in binary files. Supplied with most Linux and Unix versions as part of the operating system or the GNU binutils²⁷ package. Needed in several tasks of the exercise. Windows users can use the GNU version together with MinGW²⁸ or Cygwin²⁹ or use the version from Sysinternals/Microsoft.³⁰

1.4.2 Grep

Grep is a tool to search for strings matching regular expression in a set of files. It is available through the GNU grep³¹ package. On Windows systems, the native **findstr** command can be used instead or the GNU version together with MinGW³² or Cygwin.³³

1.4.3 Ncat

Or any other netcat compatible tool. Needed for the transfer of images taken with WinPmem or LiME (or dd) over the network. The version used in this exercise is the one from the Nmap tool because it has a free Windows binary for download.³⁴

Volatility and its dependencies are installed on the analysis virtual machine (Styx). WinPmem and Ncat are supplied as the "aq-tools" bundle that can be unpacked and directly used on Windows machines (they support both x86 and x64).

²⁵ https://sourceforge.net/projects/volatility.mirror/files/winpmem-1.4.1.zip/ (last visited 19.8. 2014)

²⁶ https://code.google.com/p/lime-forensics/ (last visited 19.8. 2014)

²⁷ https://www.gnu.org/software/binutils/ (last visited 19.8. 2014)

²⁸ http://www.mingw.org/ (last visited 19.8. 2014)

²⁹ https://www.cygwin.com/ (last visited 19.8. 2014)

³⁰ http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/sysinternals/bb897439 (last visited 19.8. 2014)

³¹ https://www.gnu.org/software/grep/ (last visited 19.8. 2014)

³² http://www.mingw.org/ (last visited 19.8. 2014)

³³ https://www.cygwin.com/ (last visited 19.8. 2014)

³⁴ http://nmap.org/dist/ncat-portable-5.59BETA1.zip (last visited 19.8. 2014)



1.5 Alternatives

The following items are meant only as examples, not as a comprehensive list.

1.5.1 Kernel Debugger

Kernel Debuggers (KD for Windows, GDB for Linux or Mac OSX) can be used for some³⁵ tasks Volatility is used for.

- Often available for architectures and operating systems for which no forensic tools exist.
- Not limited to specific tasks or data structures like Volatility therefore much more powerful.
- Requires debugging symbols together with the image to work. will not work out-of-the box with raw images.
- User must have extensive knowledge about kernel data structures and programming.
- Tasks are not automatized and must be executed manually.

1.5.2 Mandiant Memoryze

Free but not open source tool from Mandiant³⁶. For Windows and Max OS X memory analysis.

1.5.3 Second Look

From Raytheon Pikewerks³⁷. For Linux memory analysis.

1.6 Virtual Memory images

The virtual memory images used in this exercise are from two sources:

The Linux images are from the Second Look website³⁸ and used with kind permission from Andrew Tappert and Jamie Hall.

- **Ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-clean.mem** A clean image of a Ubuntu 10.04 system to be used as a baseline.
- **Ubuntu-10.04.3-i386--LiveCD-kbeast.mem** An Ubuntu 10.04 system infected with the Kbeast kernel rootkit.
- Windows-zeus.vmem A Windows XP system infected with the Zeus banking trojan.

The Windows image is from the Malware Cookbook³⁹ site and used with kind permission from Michael Ligh. All images are inside /home/enisa/enisa/ex4/memdumps/ and you can extract them with the unzip command.

1.7 Virtual Appliances

Two virtual appliances are used in this exercise.

³⁵ Many tasks that are exclusive to Volatility. For example kernel debugger cant show listening sockets or established connections, extract attacker command history, enumerate running services, etc.

³⁶ https://www.mandiant.com/resources/download/memoryze(last visited 19.8. 2014)

³⁷ http://secondlookforensics.com/ (last visited 19.8. 2014)

³⁸ https://secondlookforensics.com/linux-memory-images/ (last visited 26. 8. 2014)

³⁹ http://malwarecookbook.googlecode.com/svn-history/r26/trunk/17/1/zeus.vmem.zip (last visited 26. 8. 2014)

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- **Styx** A Ubuntu 14.04 system with the Volatility framework pre-installed. This will be used by the students to analyse the memory images. Login with user "enisa" and password "enisa".
- **Opsu** An OpenSuSE 12.3 system. This will be used in task 1.2 as a sample system to take a memory image from. Login with user "exercise" and password "exercise".

The students are encouraged to bring their own Windows appliance with them for task 1.1. They can also use a full hardware-based Windows for the task. However, using a system with sensitive or critical data on it for the course is discouraged.

2 Exercise Course

2.1 Introduction

The teacher should use the introductory part for several purposes:

- A high level overview of digital memory forensics and digital memory analysis. References to the ENISA exercise 24 "Digital Forensics" can be used here.
- The basic operation of the Volatility toolkit⁴¹. How Volatility is called from the command line, how images and profiles are specified and how help can be obtained using the –help and –info options.
- Basic concepts of how Volatility works internally. This should include the most important kernel data structures used by Volatility, like KPCR and KDEBUG and the way a kernel internally allocates memory, i.e. the Windows Object Manager¹⁶ and the Linux slab allocator.^{42,17} Based on this, the techniques of walking internal data structures and the basic principle of pool tag scanning should be introduced.⁴³

2.2 Task 1: Acquiring memory images

In the introductory part, the teacher explains the concepts of address spaces,⁴⁴ vtypes and Volatility profiles. Also, the difference between "raw" and other memory dump types should be explained. Additionally, the acquisition methods used in this task(s) should be put into context with other methods of acquisition:

- Hardware-based (Firewire/Thunderbolt/ESATA/USB).⁴⁵
- Virtual machine images/snapshots from VMware, 46 VirtualBox, 47 or other hypervisors.
- Software-based images. Aside from copy of /dev/mem, this also includes crashdumps⁴⁸ and hibernate files.⁴⁹

In the last part, the teacher should explain the tools and commands used in the following task.

⁴⁰ https://www.enisa.europa.eu/activities/cert/support/exercise/ (exercise no 24) (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁴¹ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Volatility-Usage (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁴² http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slab allocation (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁴³ http://computer.forensikblog.de/en/2009/04/scanning-for-file-objects.html (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁴⁴ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Address-Spaces (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁴⁵ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Firewire-Address-Space (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁴⁶ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/VMware-Snapshot-File (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁴⁷ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Virtual-Box-Core-Dump (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁴⁸ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Crash-Address-Space (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁴⁹ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Hiber-Address-Space (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



2.2.1 Task 1.1: Acquiring memory images from Windows

As a prerequisite, the students should have acquisition tools on their Windows system or appliance, or on a mapped network drive. The two following tools were included because they were open source, not due to specific features.

- WinPmem (or similar tool)
- Netcat or Ncat (from Nmap) (or similar tool)

The aq-tools folder supplied to the students contains a copy of WinPmem and Ncat.

The dump can be written to a file. As this will overwrite data on the local disk, it is advisable to do it to a removable drive or a network drive. If the in-memory data structures should be preserved as much as possible (and to avoid having malware infect the removable or network drive), the dump can be written to stdout and the forwarded with Ncat.

Commands used:

Answer to task 1.1

The following screenshot shows dumping to disk with WinPmem, in Windows Crashdump format. A first verification step is to check whether the file size of the dump file is roughly equal to the amount of RAM installed on the system the dump was taken from (with **dir** or **ls**). The commands on Windows must be run as administrator.

```
C:\Users\malbox\aq-tools>winpmem_1.4.exe -d testdump.crash
Driver Unloaded.

Loaded Driver C:\Users\malbox\AppData\Local\Temp\pme6B2.tmp.

Setting acquitision mode to 1

Will write a crash dump file

CR3: 0x0000185000

2 memory ranges:

Start 0x00001000 - Length 0x0009E000

Start 0x00100000 - Length 0x1FEF0000

00% 0x00010000 .

00% 0x003300000 .

19% 0x03300000 .

29% 0x09700000 .
```



```
39% 0x0C900000 .....
49% 0x0FB00000 .....
58% 0x12D00000 .....
68% 0x15F00000 .....
78% 0x19100000 .....
88% 0x1C300000 .....
97% 0x1F500000 .....
Driver Unloaded.
C:\Users\malbox\aq-tools>dir testdump.crash
Volume in drive C has no label.
Volume Serial Number is 10AA-2D6C
Directory of C:\Users\malbox\aq-tools>
08/14/2014 10:08 PM
               536,408,064 testdump.crash
         1 File(s) 536,408,064 bytes
         0 Dir(s) 525,869,056 bytes free
C:\Users\malbox\aq-tools>
```

Example of a memory dump in Windows Crashdump format (-d) (over the network):

```
C:\Users\malbox\aq-tools>winpmem_1.4.exe -d - | ncat.exe --send-only exercise.example.net
11111

C:\Users\malbox\Desktop\winpmem-1.4>
```

The image can (and should) be verified with Volatility's **imageinfo**⁵⁰ command. The teacher should explain the fields in the output in detail (like AS Layer, etc.).

```
> vol.py -f testdump-net.raw imageinfo
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
Determining profile based on KDBG search...

Suggested Profile(s): Win7SP0x86, Win7SP1x86

AS Layer1: TA32PagedMemoryPae (Kernel AS)

AS Layer2: FileAddressSpace (/home/exercise/testdump-net.raw)

PAE type: PAE

DTB: 0x185000L

KDBG: 0x82758be8

Number of Processors: 1

Image Type (Service Pack): 0

KPCR for CPU 0: 0x82759c00
```

⁵⁰ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Command%20Reference#imageinfo (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

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```
KUSER_SHARED_DATA: 0xffdf0000

Image date and time: 2014-08-14 16:36:11 UTC+0000

Image local date and time: 2014-08-14 18:36:11 +0200
```

Alternatively the image can be taken in Windows crashdump⁴⁸ format. The difference between the two formats as well as their advantages and disadvantages should be explained.

```
> vol.py -f testdump-net.crash imageinfo
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
Determining profile based on KDBG search...

Suggested Profile(s) : Win7SP0x86, Win7SP1x86 (Instantiated with WinXPSP2x86)

AS Layer1 : IA32PagedMemoryPae (Kernel AS)

AS Layer2 : WindowsCrashDumpSpace32 (Unnamed AS)

AS Layer3 : FileAddressSpace (/home/exercise/testdump-net.crash)

PAE type : PAE

DTB : 0x185000L

KUSER_SHARED_DATA : 0xffdf0000

Image date and time : 2014-08-14 16:04:20 UTC+0000

Image local date and time : 2014-08-14 18:04:20 +0200
```

2.2.2 Task 1.2 Acquiring memory images from Linux

There are several ways of taking a memory image from a Linux systems. In addition to dumping the virtual machine memory (VMware, VirtualBox, KVM, etc.) or taking images through the Firewire interface, there are two ways of taking images from inside a running system through live acquisition tools:

Copying /dev/mem directly with userspace tools.
 The typical command could be as follows:

dd if=/dev/mem of=test.dump bs=512 conv=noerror

However, this works only if the **CONFIG_STRICT_DEVMEM** kernel option is not set.⁵¹ One can look for it in **/boot/config-\$(uname -r)**. If it is set, userspace reads from **/dev/mem** or **/dev/kmem** can't go beyond the first megabyte. If it is not set, LiME (see below) isn't needed and a dump from the kernel can be taken in the aforementioned way. Using LiME has two other advantages: First, it can be used on Android systems and second, it can dump in a format compatible with standard kernel debuggers.

The first screenshot shows the output with the option switched to "on", the second with the option switched to "off". Root privileges are needed to access /dev/mem (as shown by the "#" command prompt).

```
> grep CONFIG_STRICT_DEVMEM /boot/config-2.6.32-34-server
CONFIG_STRICT_DEVMEM=y
# dd if=/dev/mem of=/dev/null bs=1M
```

⁵¹ http://cateee.net/lkddb/web-lkddb/STRICT_DEVMEM.html (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



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```
dd: reading '/dev/mem': Operation not permitted
1+0 records in
1+0 records out
1048576 bytes (1.0 MB) copied, 0.204055 s, 5.1 MB/s
```

```
> grep CONFIG_STRICT_DEVMEM /boot/config-3.1.10-1.16-desktop

# CONFIG_STRICT_DEVMEM is not set

# dd if=/dev/mem of=/dev/null bs=1M

dd: reading '/dev/mem': Bad address

991+0 records in

991+0 records out

1039138816 bytes (1.0 GB) copied, 1.84746 s, 562 MB/s
```

2. Using a special kernel module, here LiME.

From the LiME website⁵²: A Loadable Kernel Module (LKM) which allows for volatile memory acquisition from Linux and Linux-based devices, such as Android. This makes LiME unique as it is the first tool that allows for full memory captures on Android devices. It also minimizes its interaction between user and kernel space processes during acquisition, which allows it to produce memory captures that are more forensically sound than those of other tools designed for Linux memory acquisition.

Some Linux distributions (like Ubuntu) have LiME as a package, which can be installed in the usual way. Others may have to build the LiME kernel module from source.

2.2.2.1 Task 1.2.1 Building the LiME kernel module

Answer to task 1.2.1:

Here: installing LiME on OpenSuSE:

Download package:

wget https://lime-forensics.googlecode.com/files/lime-forensics-1.1-r17.tar.gz

· Unpack:

tar xvfz lime-forensics-1.1-r17.tar.gz

Compile:

This needs basic compile tools such as (g)cc and make as well as the Linux kernel header files matching the installed kernel. The version of the running kernel can be found with **uname -r**, architecture with **uname -p**

cd src

make

Ignore the warnings. This should produce a Linux kernel module named "lime-\$(uname - r).ko"

```
> cd src
> make
```

⁵² https://github.com/504ensicsLabs/LiME (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



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```
make -C /lib/modules/3.4.6-2.10-default/build M=/home/exercise/src modules
make[1]: Entering directory `/usr/src/linux-3.4.6-2.10-obj/i386/default'
 CC [M] /home/exercise/src/tcp.o
 CC [M] /home/exercise/src/disk.o
 CC [M] /home/exercise/src/main.o
/home/exercise/src/main.c: In function ' check dio':
/home/exercise/src/main.c:56:1: warning: return from incompatible pointer type
[enabled by default]
  LD [M] /home/exercise/src/lime.o
 Building modules, stage 2.
 MODPOST 1 modules
          /home/exercise/src/lime.mod.o
 LD [M] /home/exercise/src/lime.ko
make[1]: Leaving directory `/usr/src/linux-3.4.6-2.10-obj/i386/default'
strip --strip-unneeded lime.ko
mv lime.ko lime-3.4.6-2.10-default.ko
make tidy
make[1]: Entering directory `/home/exercise/src'
rm -f \star.o \star.mod.c Module.symvers Module.markers modules.order \cdot.\star.o.cmd \cdot.\star.ko.cmd
\.*.o.d
rm -rf \.tmp versions
make[1]: Leaving directory `/home/exercise/src'
> uname -r
3.4.6-2.10-default
> ls -1
insgesamt 36
-rw-r--r-- 1 exercise users 2117 19. Mär 2013 disk.c
-rw-r--r-- 1 exercise users 6908 11. Aug 23:53 lime-3.4.6-2.10-default.ko
-rw-r--r- 1 exercise users 1861 19. Mär 2013 lime.h
-rw-r--r-- 1 exercise users 5028 19. Mär 2013 main.c
-rw-r--r- 1 exercise users 1248 19. Mär 2013 Makefile
-rw-r--r- 1 exercise users 1723 19. Mär 2013 Makefile.sample
-rw-r--r-- 1 exercise users 3160 19. Mär 2013 tcp.c
```

As the source package is already installed on the Opsu appliance, only the following commands are needed for the exercise:

```
cd src
make
uname -r
ls -l
```

2.2.2.2 Task 1.2.2 Taking the image from a Linux system

The LiME kernel module needs at least two parameters:

1. The location where the dump should go to, this is supplied with the **path** parameter **path** is either a full pathname of the dump file or a TCP port number on the local system:



path=/tmp/dump-filename or path=tcp:23456. Of course, there must be a program listening on the port to forward the data to its final destination.

2. The format of the dump, supplied with the format parameter (format can be raw, padded or lime). As Volatility directly supports the lime address space, this should be used when dumping for use with Volatility. For older versions of Volatility or other tools that do not support lime address space, raw is likely the best choice.

Answer to task 1.2.2:

The actual dump is done by installing the LiME kernel module with the appropriate parameters (as root).

insmod lime.ko "path=/media/usb-stick/memdump.lime format=raw"

```
# insmod lime-3.4.6-2.10-default.ko "path=/tmp/testdump.lime format=lime"
# ls -l /tmp/testdump.lime
-r--r-- 1 root root 536345664 12. Aug 00:05 /tmp/testdump.lime
#
```

When doing several dumps, ensure to unload the **lime** module before the next dump with **rmmod lime** (unlike the previous **insmod** command, the version number of the kernel module is not needed here).

Commands for task 1.2.2 (the insmod command must be executed as root).

```
insmod lime-3.4.6-2.10-default.ko "path=/tmp/testdump.lime format=lime"
ls -1 /tmp/testdump.lime
```

As a quick check, the dump file should almost be the same size as the amount of RAM installed on the system the dump was taken from. (In the example: 512 MB).

```
# insmod lime-3.4.6-2.10-default.ko "path=/tmp/testdump.lime format=lime"
# ls -l /tmp/testdump.lime
-r--r-- 1 root root 536345664 12. Aug 00:05 /tmp/testdump.lime
#
```

As another check, one can look into the dump's header. This can be useful if the format has been forgotten. As can be seen, LiME dumps have a clealy visible signature (EMiL).



00010000 36 63 62 33 65 39 63 63 30 65 66 38 33 37 65 39 |6cb3e9cc0ef837e9|

2.2.2.3 Task 1.2.3 Building a Volatility profile

Profiles must match exactly the:

- OS Type (CentOS, OpenSuSE, Ubuntu, ...).
- Architecture (x86, x64, ARM, ...).
- OS Version (uname -r).

If a matching profile is not available, a matching profile can be built:

Answer to task 1.2.3:

Building a profile on/for OpenSuSE 12.2:

- 1. Copy the directory /usr/src/volatility-tools/linux and its contents to the linux system that requires a profile.
- 2. Install the Linux kernel header of the version of the OS running, i.e. if 3.4.6-2.10-default is running on the system (uname -r), one should install kernel-source-3.4.6-2.10.1.noarch (Fedora, OpenSuSE). Furthermore, you need the dwarfdump program supplied with the dwarfdump package on Debian systems or libdwarf-tools (Fedora, OpenSuSE). The distribution specific tools like yum search (Fedora), zypper search (OpenSuSE), or apt-get search (Debian) should be used to search for an appropriate package.
- 3. In the linux directory, run make. This builds module.dwarf.

```
> make
make -C //lib/modules/3.4.6-2.10-default/build CONFIG DEBUG INFO=y
M=/home/exercise/volatility-tools/linux modules
make[1]: Entering directory `/usr/src/linux-3.4.6-2.10-obj/i386/default'
 CC [M] /home/exercise/volatility-tools/linux/module.o
 Building modules, stage 2.
 MODPOST 1 modules
         /home/exercise/volatility-tools/linux/module.mod.o
 CC
 LD [M] /home/exercise/volatility-tools/linux/module.ko
make[1]: Leaving directory `/usr/src/linux-3.4.6-2.10-obj/i386/default'
dwarfdump -di module.ko > module.dwarf
make -C //lib/modules/3.4.6-2.10-default/build M=/home/exercise/volatility-tools/linux
make[1]: Entering directory `/usr/src/linux-3.4.6-2.10-obj/i386/default'
 CLEAN /home/exercise/volatility-tools/linux/.tmp versions
 CLEAN
         /home/exercise/volatility-tools/linux/Module.symvers
make[1]: Leaving directory `/usr/src/linux-3.4.6-2.10-obj/i386/default'
```

- 4. You need **System.map** file of the running kernel, which is typically in directory **/boot** like **/boot/System.map-3.4.6-2.10-default** for example.
- 5. Copy both files (**module.dwarf** and **System.map**) into a zip file (this step can be done on another system if the system you compiled on doesn't have the zip command installed). Give the file a name:
 - zip OpenSuSE12.2-x86.zip module.dwarf /boot/System.map-3.4.6-2.10-default.



- 6. Copy the Zip file into the users profile folder or into the Volatility profiles folder plugins/overlays/linux (on Debian/Ubuntu systems, this will be /usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/volatility/). This will require root privileges and the folder may be overwritten by updates or re-installs of Volatility (better keep a backup of the self-made profiles somewhere else).
- 7. Verify that Volatility finds the profile:

```
> vol.py --info | grep -i suse

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

LinuxOpenSuSE12_2-x86x86

Linux OpenSuSE12.2-x86 x86
```

The tools and source package are already installed on the OpSu appliance.

Commands used:

```
cd volatility-tools/linux

make

zip OpenSuSE12.2-x86.zip module.dwarf /boot/System.map-3.4.6-2.10-default
```

Caveat: If a student copy of Volatility can't find its profile folder, it may be because of a bug where -- plugins has to be the first option supplied, i. e. vol.py --plugins --info, not vol.py --info --plugins

To see if your profile works correctly, try commands with the profile, like **linux_cpuinfo** or **linux_banner**. The example below uses the previously created **testdump.lime** file.

The same dump with a slightly different profile (see below):

```
> vol.py -f testdump.lime --profile LinuxOpenSuSE122x86 linux_cpuinfo
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

ERROR : volatility.addrspace: Invalid profile LinuxOpenSuSE122x86 selected
> vol.py -f testdump.lime --profile LinuxOpenSuSE122x86 linux_banner

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

ERROR : volatility.addrspace: Invalid profile LinuxOpenSuSE122x86 selected
```

So, what's going wrong, both profiles match the OS version (OpenSuSE 12.2) the architecture (x86) and kernel version (3.4.6-10)?

The filename of a profile often does not tell the exact kernel version it was taken from. With **unzip**, one can look into the profile, specifically at the filename of the **System.map** file to get more details.

```
> unzip -1 OpenSuSE12.2-x86.zip
Archive: OpenSuSE12.2-x86.zip
```



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Length Date Ti	me	Name
1610967 2014-08-11 23	:08	module.dwarf
1863231 2012-08-04 10	:30	boot/System.map-3.4.6-2.10-default
3474198		2 files
> unzip -l OpenSUSE122.z	ip	
Archive: OpenSUSE122.zij	р	
Length Date Time	me	Name
1630818 2014-02-01 15	:55	volatility/tools/linux/module.dwarf
1969517 2012-08-04 10	:15	boot/System.map-3.4.6-2.10-desktop
3600335		2 files

As can be seen, even a very minor difference (3.4.6-2.10-default vs. 3.4.6-2.10-desktop) can render a profile unusable. The versions must match **exactly**!

Ubuntu/Debian distributions have the **volatility-profiles** package which contains profiles for many versions of Debian or Ubuntu. However, not all in-between patch levels of the kernels are in this package.

2.3 Task 2: Basic analysis of Windows images

In the introductory part of this task, the teacher should introduce Volatility commands for process analysis, how they work, and their output⁵³.

· pslist, pstree, psscan, threads, thrdscan, psxview

Aside from the process listings, there are several more commands that should be introduced, as they give further information about a process and some of them will be needed later on in the exercise. It is assumed that the students have a basic knowledge about what environment variables, Windows privileges, and SIDs are but if there a questions from the students, the teacher should be prepared to handle them.

dlllist, handles, envars, privs, getsids,

Finally, the **console** and **cmdscan** Volatility commands should be introduced.

2.3.1 Task 2.1: Windows process analysis

This task will use Windows memory image, windows-zeus.vmem - an image of an x86 Windows XP system infected with the Zeus banking trojan. The WinXPSP2x86 profile should be used. As a second image, the one taken from task 1.1 can be used.

Commands used for the task:

```
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem pslist
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem dlllist -p 856
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem envars -p 856
```

https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Command%20Reference#processes-and-dlls visited: 30. 9. 2014) (last



vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem privs -p 856
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem getsids -p 856

Questions:

In the image, find the process with PID 856.

- 1. What program is running there, and what are its command line arguments?
- 2. What is its parent process?
- 3. What are the environment variables of this process?
- 4. What are the enabled privileges?
- 5. Which SIDs is this process running with? Is this normal?

Answer to question 1: What program is running there, and what are its command line arguments?

The program is called svchost.exe. It is launched with the command line C:\WINDOWS\system32\svchost -k DcomLaunch.

Here's the sample output from the **pslist** command.

> vol.pyprofile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem pslist									
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1									
Offset(V) Name	PID	PPID	Thds	Hnds	Sess	Wow64	Start Exit		
0x810b1660 System	4	0	58	379		0			
0xff2ab020 smss.exe 06:06:21 UTC+0000	544	4	3	21		0	2010-08-11		
0xfflecda0 csrss.exe 06:06:23 UTC+0000	608	544	10	410	0	0	2010-08-11		
0xff1ec978 winlogon.exe 06:06:23 UTC+0000	632	544	24	536	0	0	2010-08-11		
0xff247020 services.exe 06:06:24 UTC+0000	676	632	16	288	0	0	2010-08-11		
0xff255020 lsass.exe 06:06:24 UTC+0000	688	632	21	405	0	0	2010-08-11		
0xff218230 vmacthlp.exe 06:06:24 UTC+0000	844	676	1	37	0	0	2010-08-11		
0x80ff88d8 svchost.exe 06:06:24 UTC+0000	856	676	29	336	0	0	2010-08-11		
0xff217560 svchost.exe 06:06:24 UTC+0000	936	676	11	288	0	0	2010-08-11		
[truncated]									
0xff224020 cmd.exe 19:17:55 UTC+0000 2010-08-15 1		1668 UTC+0000	Ü		0	0	2010-08-15		



Service Pack 2								
Base	Size	LoadCount	Path					
0x01000000	0x6000	0xffff	C:\WINDOWS\system32\svchost.exe					
0x7c900000	0xb0000	0xffff	C:\WINDOWS\system32\ntdll.dll					
[truncated]								

Answer to question 2: What is its parent process?

It's parent process has the PID 676, services.exe. See the output above.

Answer to question 3: What are the environment variables of this process?

It's environment variables are given in the listing below.

```
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem envars -p 856
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
Pid Process
               Block
                         Variable
                                                   Value
---- ------ ----- -----
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 ALLUSERSPROFILE
                                                   C:\Documents and Settings\ All Users
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 CommonProgramFiles
                                                  C:\Program Files\Common Files
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 COMPUTERNAME
                                                   BILLY-DB5B96DD3
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 ComSpec
                                                   C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 FP NO HOST CHECK
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 NUMBER OF PROCESSORS
                                                   1
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 OS
                                                    Windows NT
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 Path
                                                    C:\WINDOWS\system32;
C:\WINDOWS;C:\WINDOWS\System32\Wbem
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000
                        .COM; .EXE; .BAT; .CMD; .VBS; .VBE; .JS; .JSE; .WSF; .WSH
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 PROCESSOR ARCHITECTURE
                                                   x86
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 PROCESSOR IDENTIFIER
                                                   x86 Family 6 Model 23 Stepping 10,
GenuineIntel
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 PROCESSOR LEVEL
                                                    6
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 PROCESSOR REVISION
                                                   170a
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 ProgramFiles
                                                   C:\Program Files
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 SystemDrive
                                                   C:
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 SystemRoot
                                                   C:\WINDOWS
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 TEMP
                                                   C:\WINDOWS\TEMP
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 TMP
                                                    C:\WINDOWS\TEMP
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 USERPROFILE
                                                    C:\WINDOWS\system32
\config\systemprofile
856 svchost.exe 0x00010000 windir
                                                    C:\WINDOWS
```

Answer to question 4: What are the enabled privileges?

A listing of the privileges is given below.

```
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem privs -p 856
```

Advanced artifact analysis



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Pid 	Process		Privilege	Attributes Descriptio	n
	svchost.exe e operating s		SeTcbPrivilege	Present, Enabled, Default	Act as part
	svchost.exe object	2	SeCreateTokenPrivilege	Present	Create a
	svchost.exe ship of files		SeTakeOwnershipPrivilege	Present	Take
856 pagef:	svchost.exe	15	SeCreatePagefilePrivilege	Present, Enabled, Default	Create a
856 in mer	svchost.exe mory	4	SeLockMemoryPrivilege	Present, Enabled, Default	Lock pages
	svchost.exe ss-level toke		SeAssignPrimaryTokenPrivilege	Present	Replace a
856 quota:	svchost.exe	5	SeIncreaseQuotaPrivilege	Present	Increase
	svchost.exe uling priority		SeIncreaseBasePriorityPrivilege	Present, Enabled, Default	Increase
	svchost.exe nent shared ol		SeCreatePermanentPrivilege	Present, Enabled, Default	Create
856 progra	svchost.exe	20	SeDebugPrivilege	Present, Enabled, Default	Debug
	svchost.exe ity audits	21	SeAuditPrivilege	Present, Enabled, Default	Generate
	svchost.exe ing and secur		SeSecurityPrivilege	Present	Manage
	svchost.exe are environme		SeSystemEnvironmentPrivilege es	Present	Edit
	svchost.exe ications of cl		SeChangeNotifyPrivilege to files or directories	Present, Enabled, Default	Receive
	svchost.exe and director:		SeBackupPrivilege	Present	Backup
	svchost.exe and director:		SeRestorePrivilege	Present	Restore
856 the s	svchost.exe ystem	19	SeShutdownPrivilege	Present	Shut down
	svchost.exe d device drive		SeLoadDriverPrivilege	Present	Load and
	svchost.exe e process	13	SeProfileSingleProcessPrivilege	Present, Enabled, Default	Profile a
856	svchost.exe m time	12	SeSystemtimePrivilege	Present	Change the
	svchost.exe ter from dock:		SeUndockPrivilege tion	Present	Remove
	svchost.exe on a volume	28	SeManageVolumePrivilege	Present	Manage the
	svchost.exe ent after autl		SeImpersonatePrivilege	Present, Enabled, Default	Impersonat
856	svchost.exe l objects		SeCreateGlobalPrivilege	Present, Enabled, Default	Create

Answer to question 5: Which SIDs is this process running with? Is this common?



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The SIDs are:

```
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem getsids -p 856

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

svchost.exe (856): S-1-5-18 (Local System)

svchost.exe (856): S-1-5-32-544 (Administrators)

svchost.exe (856): S-1-1-0 (Everyone)

svchost.exe (856): S-1-5-11 (Authenticated Users)
```

This is not common, the other **svchost.exe** processes do not run with administrator SIDs. Compare with the PIDs 936, 1028, 1088 or 1148.

2.3.2 Task 2.2: Network connection analysis

The teacher should explain that there are differences in the network stack of the NT 5.1 kernel (XP, Server 2003) and the 6.x (Vista and newer) series of kernels. Thus different plugins are used.

- connections and connscan for open connections.⁵⁴
- sockets and sockscan for open sockets.⁵⁴

Neither of them works on IPv6 sockets.

• netscan⁵⁴ for sockets and connections, IPv4 and IPv6, but only on Vista and newer.

Commands used:

```
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem connections
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem connscan
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem sockets
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem sockscan
```

Questions:

- 1. Do an analysis of the network communications in the image.
- 2. Try to estimate which of the communications could be malicious.

Answer to question 1:

The connections command shows nothing:

```
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem connections

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

Offset(V) Local Address Remote Address Pid
```

However, **connscan** gives a connection and an IP address.

⁵⁴ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Command%20Reference#networking (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



0x02214988 172.16.176.143:1054	193.104.41.75:80	856
0x06015ab0 0.0.0:1056	193.104.41.75:80	856

Answer to question 2:

And that IP address looks suspicious (what does that system want in Transnistria?). Even if that isn't suspicious, svchost.exe doesn't open connections by itself.

```
> host 193.104.41.75
Host 75.41.104.193.in-addr.arpa. not found: 3(NXDOMAIN)
> whois 193.104.41.75
...
inetnum: 193.104.41.0 - 193.104.41.255
netname: VVPN-NET
...
person: Evgen Sergeevich Voronov
address: 25 October street, 118-15
address: Tiraspol, Transdnistria
```

A further scan with sockets yields no further evidence. Just normal sockets and an open port 29220 hold by the process with pid 856 (but we have encountered this process already).

> vol.pyprofile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem sockets								
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1								
Offset(V)	PID	Port	Proto	Protocol	Address	Create Time		
0x80fd1008	4	0	47	GRE	0.0.0.0	2010-08-11 06:08:00 UTC+0000		
0xff258008	688	500	17	UDP	0.0.0.0	2010-08-11 06:06:35 UTC+0000		
0xff367008	4	445	6	TCP	0.0.0.0	2010-08-11 06:06:17 UTC+0000		
0x80ffc128	936	135	6	TCP	0.0.0.0	2010-08-11 06:06:24 UTC+0000		
0xff37cd28	1028	1058	6	TCP	0.0.0.0	2010-08-15 19:17:56 UTC+0000		
0xff20c478	856	29220	6	TCP	0.0.0.0	2010-08-15 19:17:27 UTC+0000		
0xff225b70	688	0	255	Reserved	0.0.0.0	2010-08-11 06:06:35 UTC+0000		
0xff254008	1028	123	17	UDP	127.0.0.1	2010-08-15 19:17:56 UTC+0000		
0x80fce930	1088	1025	17	UDP	0.0.0.0	2010-08-11 06:06:38 UTC+0000		
0xff127d28	216	1026	6	TCP	127.0.0.1	2010-08-11 06:06:39 UTC+0000		
0xff206a20	1148	1900	17	UDP	127.0.0.1	2010-08-15 19:17:56 UTC+0000		
0xff1b8250	688	4500	17	UDP	0.0.0.0	2010-08-11 06:06:35 UTC+0000		
0xff382e98	4	1033	6	TCP	0.0.0.0	2010-08-11 06:08:00 UTC+0000		
0x80fbdc40	4	445	17	UDP	0.0.0.0	2010-08-11 06:06:17 UTC+0000		

2.3.3 Task 2.3: Registry analysis

The teacher should introduce the concept of registry hives in memory backed up by files on disk, and the difference between stable and volatile registry keys¹⁶. The following commands should be explained: **hivelist, hivedump, printkey**⁵⁵. As there are hundreds of keys that can be used in the

⁵⁵ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Command%20Reference#registry (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



forensic analysis of a Windows system, the teacher should refer to the **Autoruns** and **RegRipper** tools for further reading.

The Local Security Authority (LSA) is the key process for Windows Security¹⁶. With students versed in Windows operating system concepts, this process would need no explanation. However, there might be students that have questions here. The commands **Isadump** and **hashdump**⁵⁵ deal with locally stored credentials in the registry, maintained by the LSA.

Further, the **userassist** and **getservicesids**⁵⁵ commands should be introduced.

Commands used in the task:

```
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem hivelist
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem userassist
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -K "Microsoft\Windows
NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon"
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -K "Microsoft\Windows
NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon"
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -o 0xe101b008 -K
"ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess"
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -o 0xe101b008 -K
"ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess\Parameters"
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -o 0xe101b008 -K
"ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess\Parameters\FirewallPolicy"
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -o 0xe101b008 -K
"ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess\Parameters\FirewallPolicy"
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -o 0xe101b008 -K
"ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess\Parameters\FirewallPolicy\StandardProfile"
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem hashdump -y 0xe101b008 -s 0xe1544008
```

Questions to task 2.3:

- 1. Find out if there is a malicious UserAssist key in the registry.
- 2. What is the value of the "Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon" key? It is located in the "software" hive.
- 3. Analyse the "Windows Internet Connection Firewall" (ICF) settings. The keys are located under the "ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess" key of the "System" hive.
- 4. What user accounts exist on the system?

Answers to task 2.3:

First a listing of the registry hives because the offsets are needed in the following commands:



```
0xe1542008 0x06c48008 \Device\HarddiskVolume1\WINDOWS\system32\config\default
0xe1537b60 0x06ae4b60 \SystemRoot\System32\Config\SECURITY
0xe1544008 0x06c4b008 \Device\HarddiskVolume1\WINDOWS\system32\config\SAM
0xe13ae580 0x01bbd580 [no name]
0xe101b008 0x01867008 \Device\HarddiskVolume1\WINDOWS\system32\config\system
0xe1008978 0x01824978 [no name]
0xe1e158c0 0x009728c0 \Device\HarddiskVolume1\Documents and Settings\ Administrator\Local
Settings\Application Data\Microsoft\Windows\UsrClass.dat
0xe1da4008 0x00f6e008 \Device\HarddiskVolume1\Documents and Settings\ Administrator\NTUSER.DAT
```

Answer to question 1: Is there a malicious UserAssist Key?

Even without the telling name, the Value UEME_Runpath stands out and would justify further examination.

```
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem userassist
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
_____
Registry: \Device\HarddiskVolume1\Documents and Settings\Administrator\NTUSER.DAT
Key name: Count
Last updated: 2010-08-15 19:17:23 UTC+0000
Subkeys:
Values:
REG BINARY
           UEME CTLSESSION :
0x00000000 d7 c8 59 0e 02 00 00 00
                                                             . . Y . . . . .
... [truncated] ...
REG BINARY
            UEME RUNPATH:C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator
\Desktop\ZeuS binary 5767b2c6d84d87a47d12da03f4f376ad.exe :
TD:
Count:
               1
Last updated: 2010-08-15 19:17:23 UTC+0000
0x00000000 02 00 00 00 06 00 00 60 35 58 7d ae 3c cb 01 ........`5X}.<..
... [truncated] ...
```

Answer to question 2: What is the value of the "Winlogon" key?

We need the offset of the "software" hive (**0xe153ab60**) from above. Interesting is the "UserInit" value, as it is executed at logon of a user.



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```
(S) Notify
  (S) SpecialAccounts
  (V) Credentials
Values:
REG DWORD
             AutoRestartShell: (S) 1
REG SZ
             DefaultDomainName: (S) BILLY-DB5B96DD3
REG SZ
             DefaultUserName : (S) Administrator
REG SZ
             LegalNoticeCaption : (S)
REG SZ
             LegalNoticeText : (S)
             PowerdownAfterShutdown : (S) 0
REG SZ
             ReportBootOk : (S) 1
REG SZ
REG SZ
             Shell
                             : (S) Explorer.exe
REG_SZ
             ShutdownWithoutLogon: (S) 0
REG SZ
                             : (S)
                        : (S) C:\WINDOWS\system32\userinit.exe,
REG SZ
             Userinit
C:\WINDOWS\system32\sdra64.exe,
REG SZ
             VmApplet
                            : (S) rundll32 shell32, Control_RunDLL "sysdm.cpl"
... [truncated] ...
```

Answer to question 3: Analyse the ICF settings

For the firewall settings, the student has to take the offset of the hive (**0xe101b008** see above) and then to iterate through several keys:

"ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess" "ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess\Parameters" "ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess\Parameters\FirewallPolicy" and finally

"ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess\Parameters\FirewallPolicy\StandardProfile" before the value of EnableFirewall is seen. It is disabled (0), but should be enabled (1) by default.

Answer to question 4: What user accounts exist on the system?

The user account list resides in the SAM hive of the Windows registry (at least for the local system accounts, domain accounts are stored in the active directory of the domain controller). Thus, the



offsets for the system (-y) and SAM (-s) hive are needed from the above hivelist. Just the standard accounts here, not even an account for an unprivileged user.

```
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem hashdump -y 0xe101b008 -s 0xe1544008

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Administrator:500:e52cac67419a9a224a3b108f3fa6cb6d:8846f7eaee8fb117ad06bdd830b7586c:::

Guest:501:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:31d6cfe0d16ae931b73c59d7e0c089c0:::

HelpAssistant:1000:4e857c004024e53cd538de64dedac36b:842b4013c45a3b8fec76ca54e5910581:::

SUPPORT_388945a0:1002:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:8f57385a61425fc7874c3268aa249ea1:::
```

2.3.4 Task 2.4: File and other analysis

For the file analysis the **mbrparser** and **mftparser** plugins should be introduced⁵⁶. However, they are not needed for the task. What are needed are the **consoles** and **cmdscan** plugins as well as the **strings** plugin.

Commands used in this task:

```
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem handles -t File | grep sdra
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem pstree
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem handles -p632,676,856 -t File,Mutant | grep -i avira
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem consoles
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem cmdscan
```

Questions to task 2.4:

- 1. Building on the task before, find the "sdra64.exe" file. What process has an open file handle to it?
- 2. Examining the suspicious processes from the subtasks before, what stands out in the list of objects the process has opened?
- 3. Can you find out which commands were typed in the terminated cmd.exe process?

Answer to question 1: What process has an open handle to the sdra64.exe file?

With the handles plugin, we can search for processes that have this file open. Here it is the PID 632 (winlogon.exe).

```
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem handles -t File | grep sdra

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

0xff12bb40 632 0x644 0x120089 File
\Device\HarddiskVolume1\WINDOWS\system32\sdra64.exe

>
```

What makes this interesting is that this process is the parent of services.exe, which in turn is the parent of the suspicious sychost.exe (see pstree listing).

```
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem pstree
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
```

⁵⁶ <u>https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Command%20Reference#file-system</u> (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



Name	Pid	PPid	Thds	Hnds Time
0x810b1660:System 00:00:00 UTC+0000	4	0	58	379 1970-01-01
. 0xff2ab020:smss.exe 06:06:21 UTC+0000	544	4	3	21 2010-08-11
0xff1ec978:winlogon.exe 06:06:23 UTC+0000	632	544	24	536 2010-08-11
0xff255020:lsass.exe 06:06:24 UTC+0000	688	632	21	405 2010-08-11
0xff247020:services.exe 06:06:24 UTC+0000	676	632	16	288 2010-08-11
0xff1b8b28:vmtoolsd.exe 06:06:35 UTC+0000	1668	676	5	225 2010-08-11
0xff224020:cmd.exe 19:17:55 UTC+0000	124	1668	0	2010-08-15
0x80ff88d8:svchost.exe 06:06:24 UTC+0000	856	676	29	336 2010-08-11
0xff1d7da0:spoolsv.exe 06:06:26 UTC+0000	1432	676	14	145 2010-08-11
[truncated]				

Answer to question 2: What stands out in the list of objects?

Looking again with the handles plugin at these three processes, we notice the two very similarly named "named pipes": "_AVIRA_2109" and "_AVIRA_2108". Note also the correspondingly named Mutex objects.

(The unfiltered output is quite long, so for brevity, only the filtered part is shown here).

```
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem handles -p632,676,856 -t File,Mutant | grep -i avira

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

0x80f5cd78 632 0x898 0x12019f File \Device\NamedPipe\_AVIRA_2109

0xff1e7dc0 632 0x8bc 0x1f0001 Mutant _AVIRA_2109

0xff1398c0 856 0x434 0x12019f File \Device\NamedPipe\_AVIRA_2108

0xff27b7e8 856 0x43c 0x1f0001 Mutant _AVIRA_2108
```

Answer to question 3: Can you find out which commands were typed in the terminated cmd.exe process?

The commands entered at the cmd.exe process could not be reconstructed, as per output of Volatility's **consoles** and **cmdscan** plugins.

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2.4 Task 3: Basic Linux memory analysis

The introductory part will start with the basic Linux commands ⁵⁷, notably **linux_cpuinfo** and **linux_dmesg**.

A large part will take an introduction to Linux kernel memory allocation and some of its commands⁵⁷: **linux_iomem, linux_slabinfo** and **linux_vma_cache**. The teacher should also explain the Linux kernel allocators SLAB⁵⁸, SLUB⁵⁹ and SLOB⁶⁰ and that only the first one is (fully) supported by Volatility. However, all systems in the exercise use the SLAB allocator.

2.4.1 Task **3.1**: Linux process analysis

The teacher will first introduce the commands used by Volatility to do basic Linux process listings⁶¹: linux_pslist, linux_psaux, linux_pstree, linux_pslist_cache, linux_pidhashtable and linux_psxview.

https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/LinuxCommand%20Reference#system-information (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁵⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SLAB (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁵⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SLUB (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁶⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SLOB (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁶¹ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/LinuxCommand%20Reference#processes (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



Besides these, the **linux_lsof** should be introduced here, as it is used in the tasks below. It works similar to the **handles** command covered in the Windows section.

For this task, we will be using the kbeast image(s):

- Ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-clean.mem
- Ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-kbeast.mem

The profile is: **LinuxUbuntu10_04x86**. This is a custom profile supplied together with the Linux images in the same folder.

Commands used in this task

```
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux cpuinfo

vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux_dmesg

vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxOpenSuSE12_2-x86x86 -f opsu.lime linux_pstree
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxOpenSuSE12_2-x86x86 -f opsu.lime linux_bash
```

Questions to task 3.1:

- 1. What type of processor and how many of them are used in the system the kbeast images were taken from?
- 2. The "attacker" has connected a device to the system. Which one?
- 3. Take the image from task 1.2 and try to find your own forensic session processes.

Answer to question 1: What type of processor and how many of them are used in the system the kbeast images were taken from?

One processor. For details, see the **linux_cpuinfo** output:

Answer to question 2: The "attacker" has connected a device to the system. Which one?

An 8GB "Kanguru FlashBlu" USB stick/drive. See linux_dmesg output:

```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntul0_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux_dmesg

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

[2314885531810281020.2314885531] ] Initializing cgroup subsys cpuset

<6>[ 0.000000] Initializing cgroup subsys cpu

... [truncated] ...

<6>[ 5404.140360] usb 1-2: new full speed USB device using ohci_hcd and address 5

<6>[ 5404.402409] usb 1-2: configuration #1 chosen from 1 choice

<6>[ 5404.923893] Initializing USB Mass Storage driver...

<6>[ 5404.925165] scsi3 : SCSI emulation for USB Mass Storage devices

<6>[ 5404.925515] usbcore: registered new interface driver usb-storage
```



```
<6>[ 5404.925517] USB Mass Storage support registered.
<7>[ 5404.930674] usb-storage: device found at 5
<7>[ 5404.930675] usb-storage: waiting for device to settle before scanning
<7>[ 5409.939032] usb-storage: device scan complete
<5>[ 5409.947870] scsi 3:0:0:0: Direct-Access
                                               Kanguru FlashBlu PMAP PQ: 0 ANSI: 0
<5>[ 5409.952639] sd 3:0:0:0: Attached scsi generic sg2 type 0
<5>[ 5409.972223] sd 3:0:0:0: [sdb] 15646720 512-byte logical blocks: (8.01 GB/7.46 GiB)
<5>[ 5409.982096] sd 3:0:0:0: [sdb] Write Protect is off
<7>[ 5409.982098] sd 3:0:0:0: [sdb] Mode Sense: 23 00 00 00
<3>[ 5409.982099] sd 3:0:0:0: [sdb] Assuming drive cache: write through
<3>[ 5410.028186] sd 3:0:0:0: [sdb] Assuming drive cache: write through
<6>[ 5410.028191] sdb: sdb1
<3>[ 5410.077497] sd 3:0:0:0: [sdb] Assuming drive cache: write through
<5>[ 5410.077500] sd 3:0:0:0: [sdb] Attached SCSI removable disk
<6>[ 5428.108189] usb 1-2: USB disconnect, address 5
```

Answer to question 3: Try to find your own forensic session processes.

The exact answer (especially the PID) will vary, but the students should be able to see their shell and the **insmod** program that loads the kernel module, perhaps the **netcat** program, if they used it to transfer the data to the analysis appliance.

A nice view can be seen from linux_pstree output:

```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxOpenSuSE12 2-x86x86 -f opsu.lime
linux pstree
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
                    Pid
                                    Uid
Name
                    1
                                     0
systemd
                    230
.udevd
                    437
                                     0
..udevd
                                     0
..udevd
                    438
.systemd-journal
                    239
                                     Ω
.haveged
                    386
.systemd-logind
                    391
                                     0
.login
                    402
..bash
                    1979
                                   1000
                    2368
                                    1000
...su
...bash
                    2369
                                     0
....insmod
                    2651
                                     0
... [truncated] ...
```

For more detail, **linux_bash** can be used:

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2.4.2 Task 3.2: Linux network connection analysis

The teacher will introduce the basics of Linux networking commands ⁶² in Volatility, namely the **linux_arp**, **linux_ifconfig**, **linux_route_cache**, **linux_netstat**, **linux_pkt_queues** and **linux_sk_buff_cache** commands. The last two commands are more complex than the others, and thus require a longer explanation. ^{63,64}

Commands used in this task:

```
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux netstat -U

vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux_ifconfig

vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux_route_cache

vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux_arp
```

Questions to task 3.2:

- What network ports/connections are open on the kbeast infected appliance?
- 2. Can you recover more information about recent network activity of this system?
- 3. Has one of the interfaces been put into promiscuous mode?
- 4. Can you find any hints, that traffic from/to the system has been redirected to other hosts?

Answer to question 1: What network ports/connections are open on the kbeast infected appliance?

Three ports: tcp/631 (on IPv4 and IPv6 localhost) and udp/68 (all addresses). Opening processes are the CUPS daemon (631) and dhclient (68). As we are looking for network activity, we use the -U flag to omit Unix socket in the linux_netstat plugin's output.

```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-
LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux netstat -U
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
TCP
         ::1:631
                              :::0
                                       LISTEN
                                                          cupsd/1561
         127.0.0.1:631 0.0.0.0:0
                                       LISTEN
TCP
                                                          cupsd/1561
         0.0.0.0.68
                         0.0.0.0.0
                                                       dhclient/3771
UDP
```

Answer to question 2: Can you recover more information about recent network activity of this system?

⁶² https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/LinuxCommand%20Reference#networking visited: 30. 9. 2014) (last

⁶³ http://vger.kernel.org/~davem/skb.html (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁶⁴ http://www.linuxfoundation.org/collaborate/workgroups/networking/sk buff (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



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As there are no open connections, we can still look for packets left in one of the receiving or sending queues with <code>linux_pkts</code> ⁶⁵ and <code>linux_sk_buff_cache</code> ⁶⁶. (The command reference also explains the output format.).

```
> mkdir pkts
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-
LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux_pkt_queues -D pkts

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

Wrote 56 bytes to receive.4121.22

Wrote 56 bytes to receive.4125.22
```

Packets can be found for the processes 4121 and 4125, each on socket 22. Let's see what this is. First, the corresponding processes.

```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-
LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux_psaux -p 4121,4125

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

Pid Uid Gid Arguments

4121 999 999 /usr/lib/indicator-applet/indicator-applet-session --oaf-activate-iid=OAFIID:GNOME_FastUserSwitchApplet_Factory --oaf-ior-fd=21

4125 999 999 /usr/lib/indicator-applet/indicator-applet --oaf-activate-iid=OAFIID:GNOME_IndicatorApplet_Factory --oaf-ior-fd=36
```

Sockets can be found with linux_lsof.

```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-
LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux lsof -p 4121,4125
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
       FD
Pid
                Path
_____ ___
    4121
               0 /dev/null
              1 /dev/null
   4121
   4121
               2 /dev/null
  ... [truncated] ...
   4121
              21 /home/ubuntu/.local/share/gvfs-metadata/home-b5e65f35.log
   4121
              22 socket: [20506]
   4121
              23 /home/ubuntu/.cache/indicator-applet-session.log
               0 /dev/null
   4125
  ... [truncated] ...
   4125
              21 /home/ubuntu/.local/share/gvfs-metadata/home-b5e65f35.log
    4125
              22 socket: [20602]
    4125
              23 /home/ubuntu/.cache/indicator-applet.log
```

⁶⁵https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/LinuxCommand%20Reference#linux_pkt_queues (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁶⁶ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/LinuxCommand%20Reference#linux_sk_buff_cache (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



We can see that the packets belong to the sockets with the inode numbers 20506 and 20602. As their sockets don't show up in the internet sockets listing, we can assume they are Unix sockets or belong to other protocols (the first is perhaps more likely).

Caveat: Some students may try to find the Unix socket with **linux_find_file**. This won't work as the plugin doesn't work with Unix sockets, and the sockets in question don't have to be named sockets, which would be the only one to show up in the file system. Further, **linux_find_file** will take quite some time with each path. Testing all pathnames of all Unix socket (from **linux_netstat**) will take much longer than the time frame of the exercise permits.

Searching the outgoing packet queues with linux_sk_buff_cache shows nothing:

```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux_sk_buff_cache -D pkts

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INFO : volatility.plugins.linux.slab_info: SLUB is currently unsupported.

INFO : volatility.plugins.linux.slab_info: SLUB is currently unsupported.
```

As for the (received) packets themselves, nothing interesting catches the eye.

Answer to question 3: Has one of the interfaces been put into promiscuous mode?

The answer to the third question is: None, see the output from linux_ifconfig

Answer to question 4: Can you find any hints, that traffic from/to the system has been redirected to other hosts?



The answer is (again): None. There are no signs of redirections from the ARP cache or the routing table. See the output from linux_arp and linux_route_cache.

2.4.3 Task 3.3: File and kernel analysis

The teacher will introduce the following commands: linux_lsmod ⁶⁷, linux_mount⁵⁷, linux_mount_cache⁵⁷, linux_dentry_cache⁵⁷, linux_tmpfs⁶⁷ and linux_bash⁶¹.

Commands used in this task:

```
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntul0 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux mount | grep tmpfs

vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntul0 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux tmpfs -L

vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntul0_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux_tmpfs -S 4 -D cow

vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntul0_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux_tmpfs -S 5 -D tmp
```

Questions to task 3.3:

- 1. Can you find something interesting in the temporary file systems?
- 2. What user(s)/group(s) did the interesting files/directories belong to?

Answer to question 1: Can you find something interesting in the temporary file systems?

The **linux_tmpfs** gives a listing of the temporary file systems used as well as the superblock numbers. The **linux_mount** plugin would not give the superblock numbers.

Caveat: devtmpfs is not a temporary file system.

> vol.pyplugins=/vol-profilesprofile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386- LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux_mount grep tmpfs			
none	/var/run	tmpfs	rw,relatime,nosuid
none	/lib/init/rw	tmpfs	rw,relatime,nosuid
none	/dev/shm	tmpfs	rw,relatime,nosuid,nodev
tmpfs	/cow	tmpfs	rw, noatime
none	/dev	devtmpfs	rw,relatime
tmpfs	/tmp	tmpfs	rw,relatime,nosuid,nodev
none	/var/lock	tmpfs	rw,relatime,nosuid,nodev,noexec

⁶⁷ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/LinuxCommand%20Reference#kernel-memory-and-objects (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



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```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-
LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux_tmpfs -L
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
1 -> /var/run
2 -> /lib/init/rw
3 -> /dev/shm
4 -> /cow
5 -> /tmp
6 -> /var/lock
```

Forensically interesting are two filesystems. First, in **tmp/tmp** (see next listing below, 2nd command) we find file **vteQ1SLDW**. This file looks like it contains a complete "listing" of the "attackers" activity on the system.

```
> head -12 vteQ1SLDW
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$ more /etc/lsb-release
DISTRIB ID=Ubuntu
DISTRIB RELEASE=10.04
DISTRIB CODENAME=lucid
DISTRIB DESCRIPTION="Ubuntu 10.04.3 LTS"
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$ df
Filesystem
                   1K-blocks Used Available Use% Mounted on
                                89632 423612 18% /
aufs
                      513244
                      508312
none
                               244 508068 1% /dev
                      704226
/dev/sr0
                               704226
                                           0 100% /cdrom
                      675968
/dev/loop0
                               675968
                                            0 100% /rofs
                      513244
                                  248 512996 1% /dev/shm
none
... [truncated] ...
```

Second **/cow**, which stands for Copy On Write. The image was taken from a live CD system, and as the system can't write to CD, every write is redirected into the /cow filesystem (this is called a union mount in Linux). Thus all writes not followed by a deletion of the file are preserved here.

Dumping the two file systems can be done with the **linux_tmpfs** plugin, this time with the -D option for the dump directory and -S option for the superblock number.

```
> mkdir tmp cow
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux_tmpfs -S 4 -D cow
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux_tmpfs -S 5 -D tmp
```

Most of the changes stem from the automatic update of several packages, the list can be seen in the directory **cow/var/cache/apt/archives/**.

In **cow/home/ubuntu/_h4x_/** we can find the source code of the rootkit as well as the compiled kernel module (ipsecs-kbeast-v1.ko) and the configuration file **config.h**.



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```
979 1. Mai 2012 config.h
-rwxr-xr-x 1 12282 1. Mai 2012 _h4x_bd
drwxr-xr-x 2 4096 1. Mai 2012 init
-rw-r--r-- 1 20184 1. Mai 2012 ipsecs-kbeast-v1.c
-rw-r--r- 1 20014 1. Mai 2012 ipsecs-kbeast-v1.cc1
-rw-r--r-- 1 16420 1. Mai 2012 ipsecs-kbeast-v1.ko
-rw-r--r-- 1 1540 1. Mai 2012 ipsecs-kbeast-v1.mod.c
-rw-r--r-- 1 3592 1. Mai 2012 ipsecs-kbeast-v1.mod.o
-rw-r--r-- 1 13404 1. Mai 2012 ipsecs-kbeast-v1.o
-rw-r--r-- 1 532 1. Mai 2012 LICENSE
-rw-r--r-- 1 172 1. Mai 2012 Makefile
              46 1. Mai 2012 modules.order
-rw-r--r-- 1
               0 1. Mai 2012 Module.symvers
-rw-r--r-- 1
-rw-r--r-- 1 1899 1. Mai 2012 README.TXT
-rwxr-xr-x 1 5693 1. Mai 2012 setup
```

In cow/var/log, some traces of the "attacker" can be found in auth.log:

```
> grep sudo auth.log
May 1 13:15:53 ubuntu sudo:
                              ubuntu : TTY=unknown ; PWD=/home/ubuntu ; USER=root ;
COMMAND=/usr/sbin/synaptic --hide-main-window --non-interactive --parent-window-id 58720295 --
update-at-startup
May 1 13:17:59 ubuntu sudo:
                             ubuntu : TTY=unknown ; PWD=/home/ubuntu ; USER=root ;
COMMAND=/usr/sbin/synaptic --hide-main-window --non-interactive --parent-window-id 58720295 -o
Synaptic::closeZvt=true --progress-str Please wait, this can take some time. --finish-str
Update is complete --set-selections-file /tmp/tmpnwYMjC
May 1 14:09:00 ubuntu sudo: ubuntu : TTY=unknown ; PWD=/home/ubuntu ; USER=root ;
COMMAND=/usr/sbin/synaptic --hide-main-window --non-interactive --parent-window-id 58720295 -o
Synaptic::closeZvt=true --progress-str Please wait, this can take some time. --finish-str
Update is complete --set-selections-file /tmp/tmpXkSWVz
May 1 14:10:29 ubuntu sudo: ubuntu : TTY=pts/0 ; PWD=/home/ubuntu ; USER=root ;
COMMAND=/etc/init.d/networking restart
May 1 14:21:35 ubuntu sudo:
                             ubuntu : TTY=pts/0 ; PWD=/home/ubuntu ; USER=root ;
COMMAND=/bin/kill -TERM 1350
May 1 14:22:15 ubuntu sudo: ubuntu : TTY=pts/0 ; PWD=/home/ubuntu ; USER=root ;
COMMAND=/bin/kill -TERM 986
May 1 14:45:13 ubuntu sudo:
                             ubuntu : TTY=pts/0 ; PWD=/home/ubuntu/ h4x ; USER=root ;
COMMAND=/sbin/insmod ipsecs-kbeast-v1.ko
May 1 14:48:34 ubuntu sudo:
                              ubuntu : TTY=pts/0 ; PWD=/home/ubuntu ; USER=root ;
COMMAND=/bin/netstat -tnlp
```

Answer to question 2: What user(s)/group(s) did the interesting files/directories belong to?

Since the plugin cannot set users on the system, the recovered files are written to, and Volatility has no access to /etc/passwd or /etc/group on the system the image was taken from, therefore user ids and group ids cannot be recovered.



2.5 Task 4: Finding and obtaining malware from memory images

In the introduction of these two tasks, the teacher will familiarize the students with plugins to find malware⁶⁸, like **malfind**, **Idrmodules**, **impscan**, **apihooks**, **driverirp**, **devicetree**, **gdt**, **idt**, **ssdt**. Emphasis should be not only on the commands and their output formats but also in the heuristics used in these commands. For **idt** and **ssdt**, some background information about the Interrupt Descriptor Table (IDT)^{16,18} and the System Service Descriptor Table (SSDT)¹⁶ may be appropriate, depending on students' level of prior knowledge. For the rest of the exercise, only **malfind** is needed.

Concerning malware recovery, the teacher should introduce the **dumpfiles** and the **filescan** plugins.

2.5.1 Task 4.1 Windows malware

Commands used:

```
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem malfind -D zeus.malfind --output-file=zeus-
malfind

vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem filescan > zeus.filescan

vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem dumpfiles -D zeus.files -n

ls -l zeus.files | grep sdra

file zeus.files/file.632.0xff37f270.sdra64.exe.dat

strings windows-zeus.vmem | grep 193.104.41.75

strings -td -n 6 -a windows-zeus.vmem > zeus.s

vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem strings -s zeus.s > zeus.strings

grep 193.104.41.75 zeus.stringscan
```

Answer to question 1: Where can Zeus be found in the system?

The **malfind** plugin lists all memory sections that Volatility considers hidden or injected. The output is quite long, so it is better written to a file.

```
> mkdir zeus.malfind
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem malfind -D zeus.malfind --output-file=zeus-malfind
```

Some of these sections look like a whole executable was injected into the process. Note the MZ header.

```
Process: services.exe Pid: 676 Address: 0x7e0000
Vad Tag: VadS Protection: PAGE EXECUTE READWRITE
Flags: CommitCharge: 38, MemCommit: 1, PrivateMemory: 1, Protection: 6
0x007e0000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00
                                                MZ..........
0x007e0010 b8 00 00 00 00 00 00 40 00 00 00 00 00 00
                                                 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
0x7e0000 4d
                    DEC EBP
0x7e0001 5a
                    POP EDX
0x7e0002 90
                    NOP
```

⁶⁸https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/LinuxCommand%20Reference#rootkit-detection (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



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```
      0x7e0003 0003
      ADD [EBX], AL

      0x7e0005 0000
      ADD [EAX], AL

      0x7e0007 000400
      ADD [EAX+EAX], AL

      0x7e000a 0000
      ADD [EAX], AL

      ... [truncated] ...
```

Answer to question 2: Extract a sample of the malware from the image.

To obtain the malware, one can dump one of the sections into a file. The **-D** option of the **malfind** plugin dumps the sections to files inside the directory given with the option (**zeus.malfind** in the above example).

Another way is to look for the **sdra64.exe** executable in the memory image. The **filescan** plugin gives a listing of all open files found in the image, while the **dumpfiles** plugin allows to dump these files.

```
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem filescan > zeus.filescan
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem dumpfiles -D zeus.files -n
> ls -l zeus.files | grep sdra
-rw-r--r-- 1 1000 1000 131072 8. Sep 14:39 file.632.0xff37f270.sdra64.exe.dat
> file zeus.files/file.632.0xff37f270.sdra64.exe.dat
zeus.files/file.632.0xff37f270.sdra64.exe.dat: PE32 executable (GUI) Intel 80386, for MS Windows
```

Answer to question 3: Finding the C&C server download URL:

From task 2.2 we have a destination IP address: 193.104.41.75. As the destination port is 80, we can assume that it is from a HTTP connection and lets further assume the IP address is the one of the C&C server. We can use the strings plugin to search for other occurrences of the IP address in the image and maybe find a complete URL with this IP address.

A very simple way is to do this by simply using the string command, like this:

```
> strings windows-zeus.vmem | grep 193.104.41.75
://193.104.41.75/cbd/75.bro
://193.104.41.75
: 193.104.41.75
g CKM193.104.41.75
http://193.104.41.75/cbd/75.bro
```

With Volatility's **strings**⁶⁹ plugin, we can extract a little more information:

⁶⁹ https://github.com/volatilityfoundation/volatility/wiki/Command%20Reference#strings (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

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```
> strings -td -n 6 -a windows-zeus.vmem > zeus.s
> vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem strings -s zeus.s > zeus.strings
> grep 193.104.41.75 zeus.stringscan
0072eca4 [632:75b2eca4 688:7612eca4 856:000c3ca4 1668:2012eca4] ://193.104.41.75/cbd/75.bro
0072eebc [632:75b2eebc 688:7612eebc 856:000c3ebc 1668:2012eebc] ://193.104.41.75/cbd/75.bro
0400ece8 [856:000e1ce8] 193.104.41.75
05b2b3fc [856:000c63fc] : 193.104.41.75
05b2b7e7 [856:000c67e7] q CKM193.104.41.75
07617d98 [856:00c32d98] http://193.104.41.75/cbd/75.bro
07617dd8 [856:00c32dd8] 193.104.41.75
```

The extra effort gives more precise information. We do have not only the strings, but also the processes (PIDs) and virtual addresses (in the processes address space) of the strings (see command reference to **strings**).

2.5.2 Task 4.2 Linux malware

In the introductory part of this task, the teacher will familiarize the students with the basic commands used to find malware in a Linux image.

linux_check_idt and **linux_check_syscall** are very similar in concept to the **cidt** and **ssdt** commands for Windows, as is **linux_check_modules** to **modules** or **modscan**.

There are several places in a Linux system, where malware can manipulate function pointers inside the kernel, the linux_check_afinfo, linux_check_tty, linux_keyboard_notifier, and linux_check_fop commands are used to check these.

Special emphasis should be given to the explanation of the **linux_check_creds** commands as it works differently from the other commands in this task. However, it will not be used in the exercise.

Finally, the teacher will introduce the linux_moddump command.

Commands used

```
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux_lsmod

vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
clean.mem linux_check_syscall > syscall.clean

vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux check syscall > syscall.kbeast

diff -y --suppress-common-lines syscall.clean syscall.kbeast

vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux_check_afinfo
```

Answer to question 1: Where/how can the kbeast rootkit be found?

KBeast is implemented as a Linux kernel module that hides itself by unlinking itself from the list of modules exported through the /proc/modules interface. Consequently, it does not show on linux_lsmod. It will be found with linux_check_modules, which uses the /sys/module/ interface.

```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux_lsmod

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
>
```



```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux_check_modules

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

Module Name
------
ipsecs_kbeast_v1
... [truncated] ...
```

Answer to question 2: What functions have been manipulated by the rootkit?

To find a list of syscalls manipulated by malware, the **linux_check_syscalls** plugin can be used. Syscalls that Volatility believes to have been manipulated are marked as "**HOOKED**".

```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-
LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux_check_syscall > syscall.kbeast
             Index Address
______
32bit
               0x0 0xc015d0c0 sys restart syscall
32bit
               0x1 0xc0151520 sys exit
32bit
               0x2 0xc0103560 ptregs fork
               0x3 0xf817d870 HOOKED
32bit
32bit
               0x4 0xf817e070 HOOKED
               0x5 0xf817e600 HOOKED
32bit
32bit
                0x6 0xc0207dd0 sys close
... [truncated] ...
```

Since the output is quite long, it is advisable to redirect to a file (see listing above). If a clean baseline is present (i.e. from **Ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-clean.mem**), both **syscall** lists can be compared to find exactly which calls have been manipulated. One can use the Gnu **diff** command for this (as the list is not too long, it can be done by hand in reasonable time).

```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-
LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux check syscall > syscall.kbeast
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-
LiveCD-clean.mem linux check syscall > syscall.clean
> diff -y --suppress-common-lines syscall.clean syscall.kbeast
32bit
         0x3 0xc020a820 sys read
                                         | 32bit
                                                     0x3 0xf817d870 HOOKED
32bit
         0x4 0xc020a7b0 sys write
                                        | 32bit
                                                     0x4 0xf817e070 HOOKED
32bit
        0x5 0xc0208030 sys open
                                         | 32bit
                                                      0x5 0xf817e600 HOOKED
        0xa 0xc0215e80 sys unlink
                                         | 32bit
                                                     0xa 0xf817e1c0 HOOKED
32bit
32bit 0x25 0xc015f670 sys kill
                                                     0x25 0xf817d520 HOOKED
                                         | 32bit
32bit
       0x26 0xc0215cd0 sys rename
                                         | 32bit
                                                     0x26 0xf817e470 HOOKED
32bit
        0x28 0xc0215fd0 sys rmdir
                                         | 32bit
                                                     0x28 0xf817e2a0 HOOKED
32bit 0x81 0xc0180d20 sys delete module | 32bit
                                                     0x81 0xf817e6f0 HOOKED
32bit 0xdc 0xc0218ff0 sys getdents64
                                         | 32bit
                                                      0xdc 0xf817e7c0 HOOKED
32bit
        0x12d 0xc0215f90 sys unlinkat
                                         | 32bit
                                                     0x12d 0xf817e380 HOOKED
```

Likewise, the IDT can be checked with **linux_check_idt**. However, the entries marked as hooked are also marked in the clean image, so they are likely to be false positives.



Likewise, the tty devices are not manipulated, **linux_check_tty** reports the same addresses for the clean and the infected image⁷⁰.

```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-
LiveCD-clean.mem linux check tty
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
                Address
                          Symbol
                0xc03bade0 n_tty_receive_buf
tty1
                 0xc03bade0 n tty receive buf
ttv2
                0xc03bade0 n tty receive buf
ttv3
                0xc03bade0 n_tty_receive_buf
tty4
                 0xc03bade0 n tty receive buf
ttv5
                0xc03bade0 n tty receive buf
ttv6
                0xc03bade0 n tty receive buf
tty8
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-
LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux check tty
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1
                Address Symbol
                0xc03bade0 n tty receive buf
tty1
                0xc03bade0 n tty receive buf
ttv2
                 0xc03bade0 n_tty_receive_buf
ttv3
tty4
                 0xc03bade0 n_tty_receive_buf
                 0xc03bade0 n tty receive buf
ttv5
                 0xc03bade0 n_tty_receive_buf
tty6
                 0xc03bade0 n tty receive buf
```

As there are no processes that are manipulated by the rootkit, **linux_check_creds** does not report anything.

Lastly, there are the file operation pointers⁷¹ (**linux_check_fop**) and the network protocol function pointers (**linux_check_afinfo**). The later gives another manipulated function:

```
> vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-kbeast.mem linux_check_afinfo

Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.3.1

Symbol Name Member Address
-----tcp4_seq_afinfo show 0xf817d650
```

Answer to question 3: Can you extract a sample of the malware from the image?

The linux_check_modules plugin reports a hidden kernel module (see listing above). However, as of Volatility 2.3.1, only modules present in the module list (i.e. which show up on linux_lsmod) can be dumped with **linux_moddump**. So, the answer to this question is: no.

⁷⁰ http://www.ieee.security.org/TC/SPW2013/proceedings/4740a097.pdf (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)

⁷¹ http://volatility-labs.blogspot.com/2012/09/movp-14-average-coder-rootkit-bash.html (last visited: 30. 9. 2014)



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3 Commands used

```
TASK 1.1 (Acquiring a Windows memory image)
winpmem 1.4.exe testdump.raw
dir testdump.raw
netcat -l -p 11111 > testdump.crash
                                            # on the receiving system
winpmem 1.4.exe -d - | ncat.exe --send-only exercise.example.net 11111
ls -l testdump.crash
vol.py -f testdump-net.raw imageinfo
TASK 1.2.1 (Building the LiME memory extraction module)
make
uname -r
ls -1
TASK 1.2.2 (Acquiring a Linux memory image)
# remember that insmod requires root privileges!
insmod lime-3.4.6-2.10-default.ko "path=/tmp/testdump.lime format=lime"
ls -l /tmp/testdump.lime
TASK 1.2.3 (Building a Linux profile)
cd volatility-tools/linux
zip OpenSuSE12.2-x86.zip module.dwarf /boot/System.map-3.4.6-2.10-default
TASK 2.1 (Windows process analysis)
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem pslist
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem dlllist -p 856
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem envars -p 856
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem privs -p 856
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem getsids -p 856
TASK 2.2 (Windows network analysis)
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f zeus.vmem connections
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f zeus.vmem connscan
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f zeus.vmem sockets
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f zeus.vmem sockscan
TASK 2.3 (Windows Registry analysis)
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem hivelist
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem userassist
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -K "Microsoft\Windows
NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon"
```



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```
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -K "Microsoft\Windows
NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon'
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -o 0xe101b008 -K
"ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess"
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -o 0xe101b008 -K
"ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess\Parameters"
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -o 0xe101b008 -K
"ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess\Parameters\FirewallPolicy"
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem printkey -o 0xe101b008 -K
"ControlSet001\Services\SharedAccess\Parameters\FirewallPolicy\StandardProfile"
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem hashdump -y 0xe101b008 -s 0xe1544008
TASK 2.4 (Windows file and other analysis)
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem handles -t File | grep sdra
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem pstree
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem handles -p632,676,856 -t File,Mutant | grep
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem consoles
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem cmdscan
TASK 3.1 (Linux process analysis)
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux cpuinfo
vol.py --pluqins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux_dmesg
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxOpenSuSE12 2-x86x86 -f opsu.lime linux pstree
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxOpenSuSE12 2-x86x86 -f opsu.lime linux bash
TASK 3.2 (Linux network analysis)
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux netstat -U
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux ifconfig
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux route cache
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux arp
TASK 3.3 (Linux file analysis)
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux mount | grep tmpfs
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux tmpfs -L
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux tmpfs -S 4 -D cow
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux tmpfs -S 5 -D tmp
TASK 4.1 (Finding and obtaining Windows malware)
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem malfind -D zeus.malfind --output-file=zeus-
malfind
```



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```
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem filescan > zeus.filescan
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem dumpfiles -D zeus.files -n
ls -l zeus.files | grep sdra
file zeus.files/file.632.0xff37f270.sdra64.exe.dat
strings windows-zeus.vmem | grep 193.104.41.75
strings -td -n 6 -a windows-zeus.vmem > zeus.s
vol.py --profile=WinXPSP2x86 -f windows-zeus.vmem strings -s zeus.s > zeus.strings
grep 193.104.41.75 zeus.stringscan
TASK 4.2 (Finding and obtaining Linux malware)
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux lsmod
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
clean.mem linux check syscall > syscall.clean
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10 04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux check syscall > syscall.kbeast
diff -y --suppress-common-lines syscall.clean syscall.kbeast
vol.py --plugins=../vol-profiles --profile=LinuxUbuntu10_04x86 -f ubuntu-10.04.3-i386-LiveCD-
kbeast.mem linux check afinfo
```

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