



FORFUN

Week 6 Registry Forensics
Soraya Harding & Rahim Taheri



Session Content

- Introduction to Windows Registry
- Registry Forensics
- Interesting Registry Settings
- Conclusions

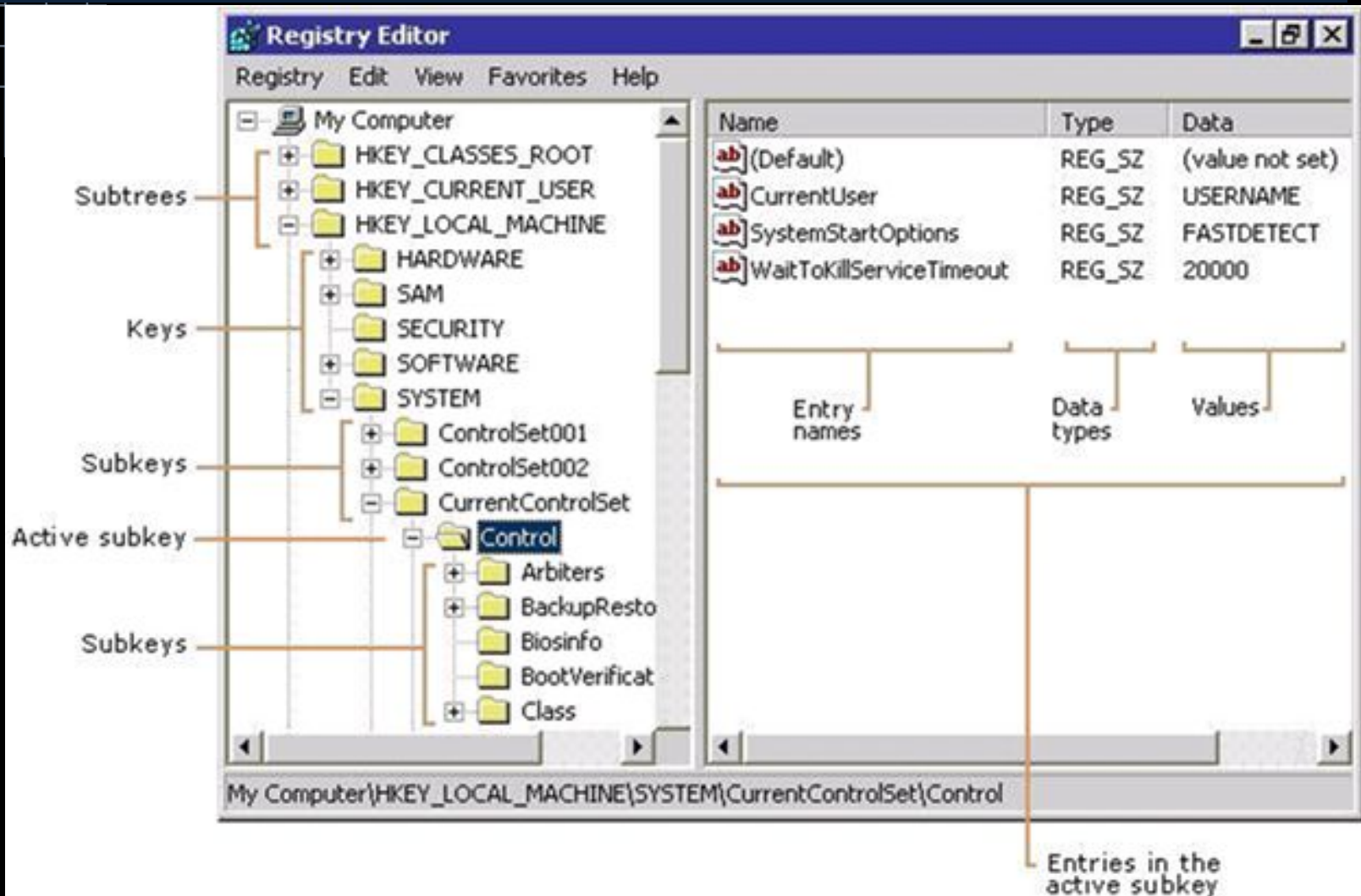


Introduction to Registry

Windows Registry

- The Windows Registry is a hierarchical database that contains all of the configurations and settings used by components, services, applications, and pretty much everything in Windows.
- Information can be recovered from registry, such as files opened, programs executed, users, passwords, devices that are connected to the computer

Registry Organization



Local Machine

| File Name | Associated Hive | Information Contained |
|-----------|-------------------------------|---|
| Software | HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE | Information about all the software items in the system, Windows performance parameters and the default Windows settings. |
| System | HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM | Information about all the hardware items in the system. |
| Sam | HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SAM | Information about the Security Accounts Manager service. |
| Security | HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SECURITY | Information about security. Neither of Security and SAM, can be viewed using Regedit, unless you reset the permissions. |
| Default | HKEY_USERS\DEFAULT | Default user settings. But the Ntuser.dat file corresponding to the currently logged-on user overrides the default user settings. |
| Userdiff | Not associated with any hive. | Information about the corresponding subkeys in the HKEY_USERS Hive for each registered user. |

Registry Value Types

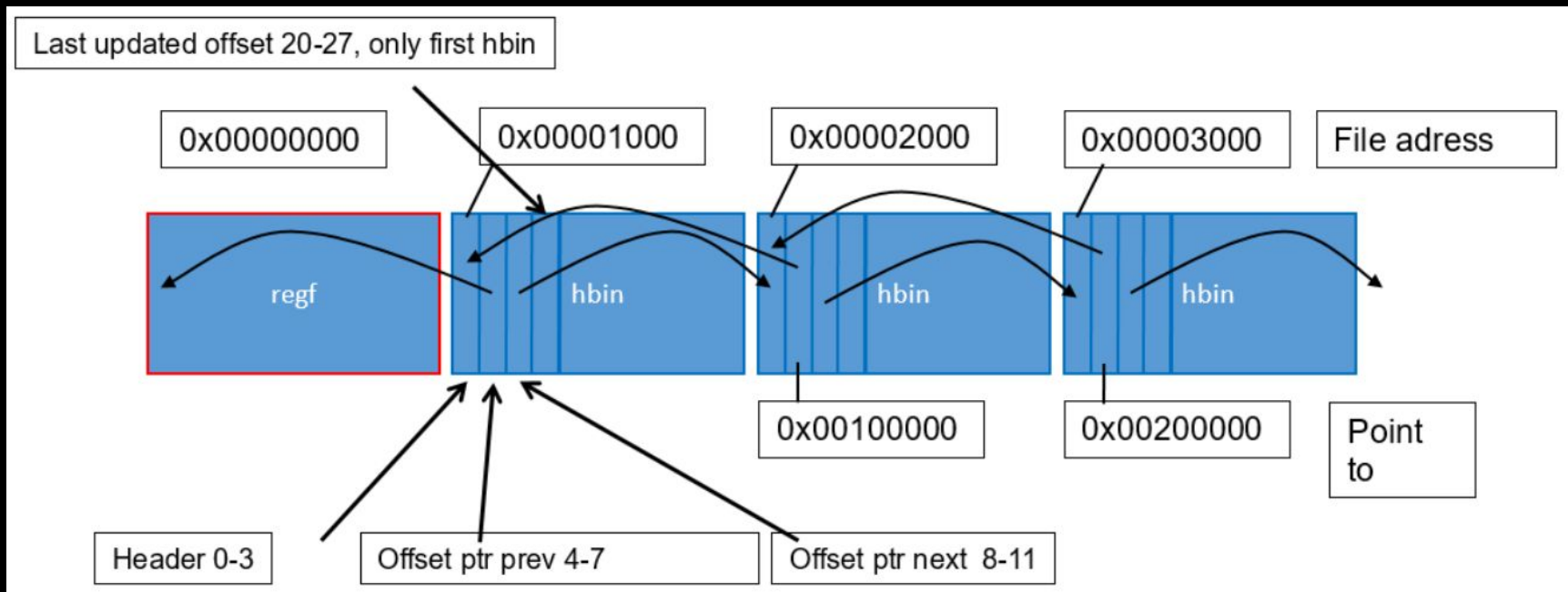
File Edit View Favorites Help

Computer\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\ControlSet001\Enum\USBSTOR\Disk&Ven_General&Prod_UDisk&Rev_5.00\6&

| | Name | Type | Data |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--|
| TS_USB_HUB_Enumerator | (Default) | REG_SZ | (value not set) |
| UEFI | Address | REG_DWORD | 0x00000004 (4) |
| UMB | Capabilities | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| USB | ClassGUID | REG_SZ | {4d36e967-e325-11ce-bfc1-08002be10318} |
| USBSTOR | CompatibleIDs | REG_MULTI_SZ | USBSTOR\Disk\USBSTOR\RAW\GenDisk |
| Disk&Ven_General&Prod_UDisk | ConfigFlags | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| 6&1460603b&0&_&0 | ContainerID | REG_SZ | {4f86b8f3-c178-11e8-b4da-9829a63456b4} |
| 6&39d3c185&0&_&0 | DeviceDesc | REG_SZ | @disk.inf,%disk_devdesc%;Disk drive |
| 6&a22fc1&0&_&0 | Driver | REG_SZ | {4d36e967-e325-11ce-bfc1-08002be10318}\0 |
| Disk&Ven_General&Prod_USB_ | FriendlyName | REG_SZ | General UDisk USB Device |
| Disk&Ven_Generic&Prod_Flash | HardwareID | REG_MULTI_SZ | USBSTOR\DiskGeneral_UDisk_____5.00 US |
| Disk&Ven_Integral&Prod_Splas | Mfg | REG_SZ | @disk.inf,%genmanufacturer%;(Standard disk |
| Disk&Ven_Maxtor_6&Prod_V0& | Service | REG_SZ | disk |
| Disk&Ven_Samsung&Prod_M3 | | | |
| Disk&Ven_USB&Prod_Disk&Re | | | |

Hives

- Registry root files, contain subkeys; Made up of 4KiB sections or “bins”
- starts with regf block followed by many hbins



Regf block

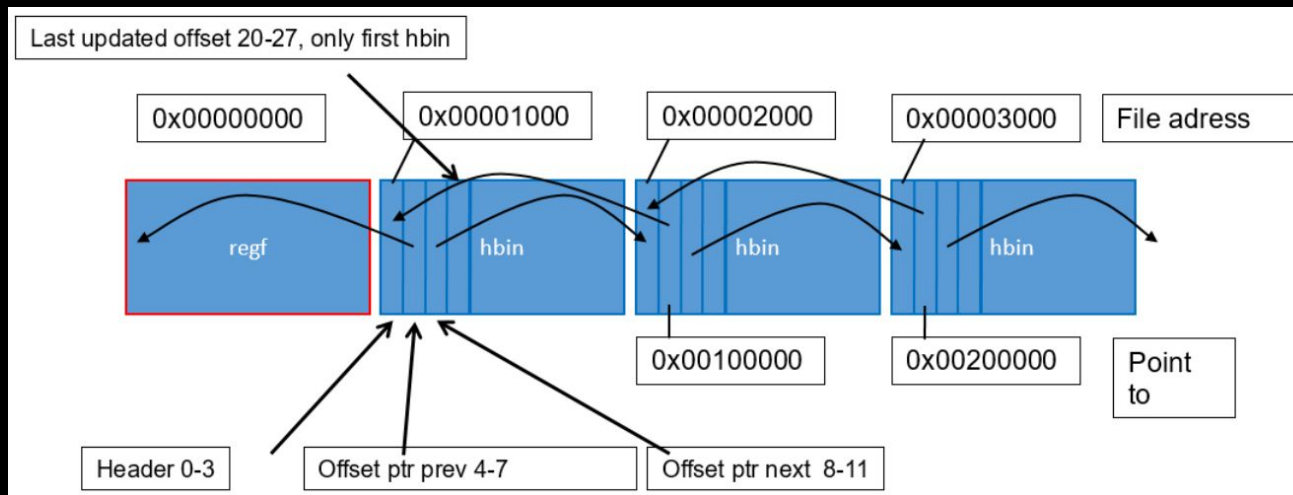
- regf block: contains regf signature (offset 0-3), last updated date and time (offset 12-19) and file name and path information (variable size from offset 48)

| | | | |
|---|--------|--------------|---------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SAM | 256 | Regular File | 12/02/2008 20:13:17 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SECURITY | 256 | Regular File | 14/07/2007 17:40:29 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SOFTWARE | 22,272 | Regular File | 12/02/2008 20:13:54 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SYSTEM | 12,544 | Regular File | 14/07/2007 17:59:57 |

| | | | | | | |
|-------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 00000 | 72 65 67 66 | CF 00 00 00 | CF 00 00 00 | 6B 03 54 B4 | regf | ĩ...ĩ...k-T |
| 00010 | B3 6D C8 01 | 01 00 00 00 | 00-03 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | 'mE..... |
| 00020 | 01 00 00 00 | 20 00 00 00 | 00-00 10 02 00 | 01 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | |
| 00030 | 5C 00 53 00 | 79 00 73 00 | 00-74 00 65 00 | 6D 00 52 00 | 00 00 00 00 | \.S-y-s-t-e-m-R |
| 00040 | 6F 00 6F 00 | 74 00 5C 00 | 00-53 00 79 00 | 73 00 74 00 | 00 00 00 00 | o-o-t-\S-y-s-t |
| 00050 | 65 00 6D 00 | 33 00 32 00 | 00-5C 00 43 00 | 6F 00 6E 00 | 00 00 00 00 | e-m-3-2-\C-on |
| 00060 | 66 00 69 00 | 67 00 5C 00 | 00-53 00 41 00 | 4D 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | f-i-g-\S-A-M- |
| 00070 | 00 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | 00-00 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | |
| 00080 | 00 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | 00-00 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | |
| 00090 | B8 1A 50 D5 | 00 00 00 00 | 00-00 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | .PÕ..... |
| 000a0 | 00 00 00 00 | 72 6D 74 6D | FF FF FF FF | FF FF FF FF | 7F 00 00 00 | ...rmtmYYYYYY |
| 000b0 | 80 02 E8 F7 | DF FA FF FF | 00 00 00 00 | 10 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | ...è+úýý |
| 000c0 | AC 1A 50 D5 | 01 00 00 00 | 00-00 00 00 00 | 00 00 1F 00 | 00 00 00 00 | ...PÕ..... |
| 000d0 | 00 00 00 00 | 04 00 00 00 | 00-A4 07 00 00 | F4 01 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 |x...ô... |
| 000e0 | 00 00 00 00 | 03 00 00 00 | 00-38 22 38 08 | 80 FA FF FF | 00 00 00 00 |8"8...úýý |
| 000f0 | 00 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 | 00-80 44 F6 04 | 80 FA FF FF | 00 00 00 00 |Dö...úýý |

hbin block

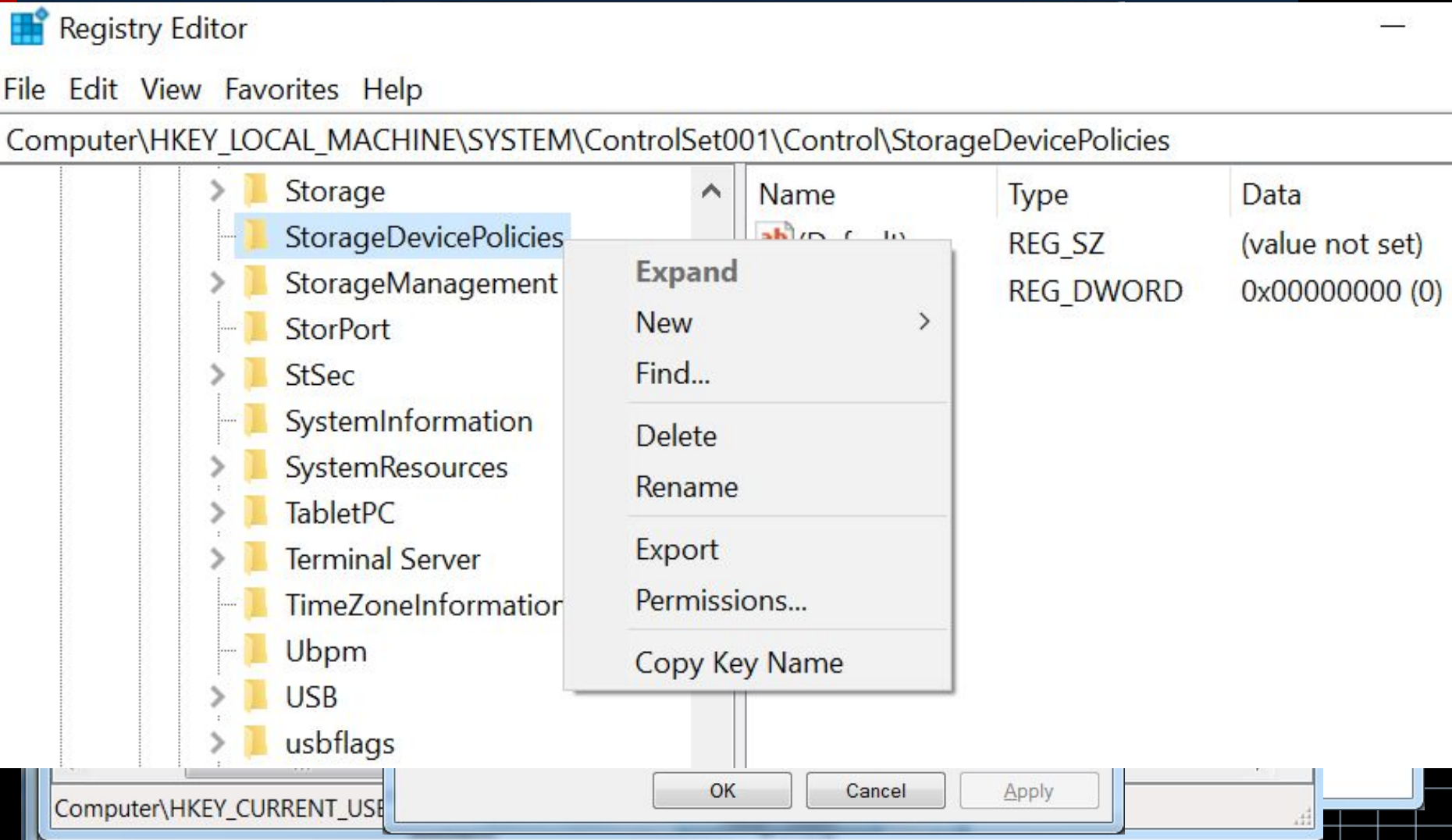
- 32 bytes header size;
- Each hbin points to the previous hbin block (offset 4-7) and to the next hbin block (offset 8-11).
- When one hbin block is filled system will make a new hbin block. The space will not be removed and data is recoverable even after deleting



Registry Files Location

| Filename | File Path | Registry Path |
|------------|---|-----------------------------|
| ntuser.dat | \Documents and Settings\user account \Users\user account | HKEY_USERS |
| Default | \Windows\system32\config | HKEY_USERS\.Default |
| SAM | \Windows\system32\config | HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SAM |
| Security | \Windows\system32\config | HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Security |
| Software | \Windows\system32\config | HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software |
| System | \Windows\system32\config | HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System |

Registry Modifications





Registry Forensics

Forensic Benefits

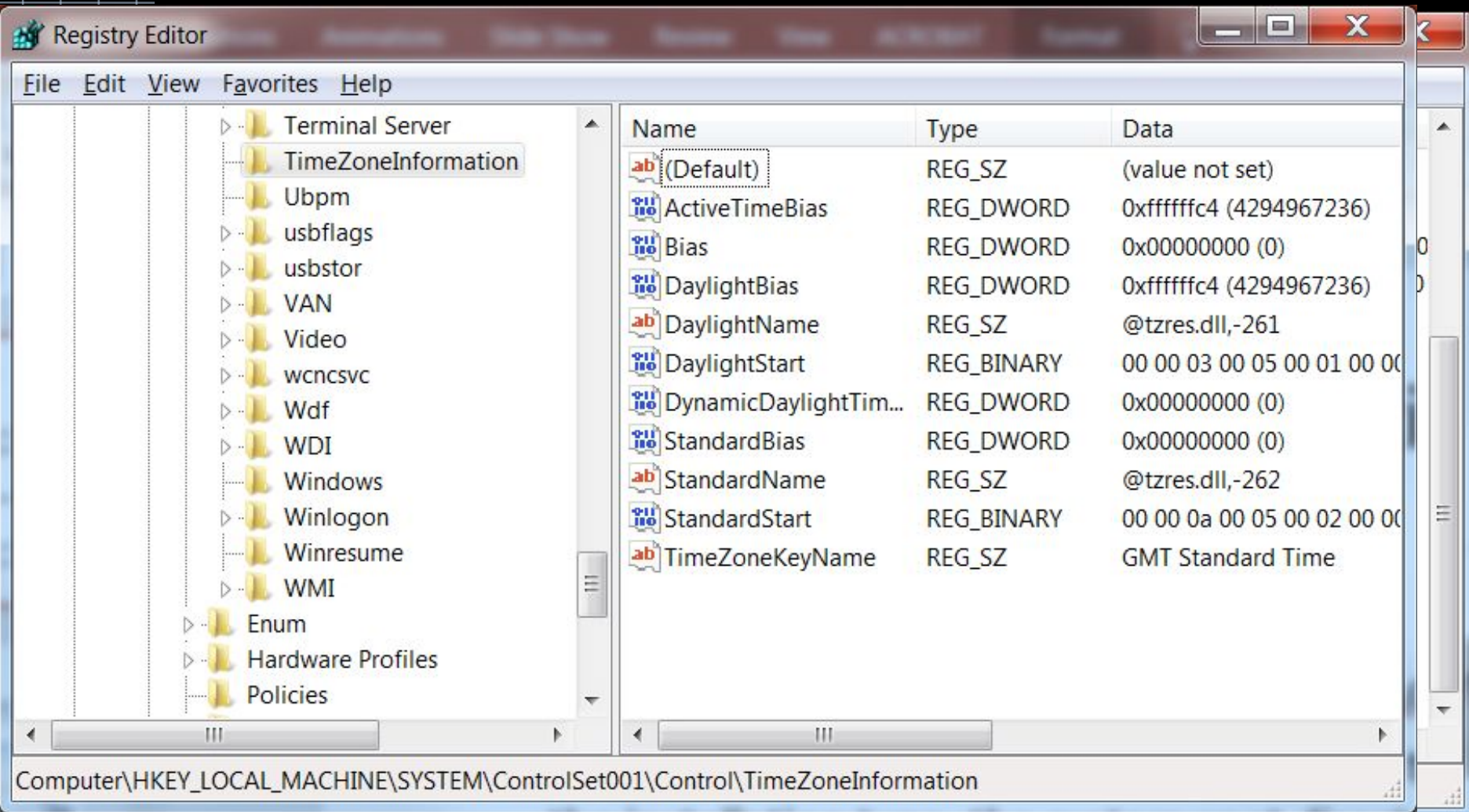
- MRUs (most-recently-used)
- Typed URLs
- System users
- Installed devices
- Registered user information
- Passwords and hashes
- Internet search queries and form data
- Date and time information of registry keys updates
- Network and wireless setting and connection information

Registry as a Log File

- Registry keys have the last modified timestamp; similar to the last modification time associated with files and directories; the timestamp is updated to the current local system time when the registry key or any of its values are created, altered, or deleted.
 - Not accessible through regedit but accessible in binary, or via various tools (e.g. RegRipper, FTK's Registry Viewer)

```
DISK&VEN_APPLE&PROD_IPOD&REV_1.62 (000A270014B302AB&0)
  LastWrite: Sat Jul 14 17:56:41 2007
  DeviceDesc: iPod
  Friendly: iPod
  Mfg: Apple
  Device Parameters LastWrite: [Sat Jul 14 17:56:41 2007]
  LogConf LastWrite          : [Sat Jul 14 17:56:41 2007]
  Properties LastWrite       : [Sat Jul 14 17:56:41 2007]
```


System Information



Attached Devices/Connected Networks

The image shows a Windows Registry Editor window. The left pane displays a tree view of the registry hierarchy, with the path `Computer\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\ControlSet001\Enum\USB\VID_04E8&PID_6860\091609e803601c03` selected. The right pane shows a list of registry values for this device, including Capabilities, Class, ClassGUID, CompatibleIDs, ConfigFlags, ContainerID, DeviceDesc, Driver, FriendlyName, HardwareID, LocationInformation, LowerFilters, Mfg, Service, and UINumber.

| Name | Type | Data |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Capabilities | REG_DWORD | 0x00000094 (148) |
| Class | REG_SZ | WPD |
| ClassGUID | REG_SZ | {eec5ad98-8080-425f-922a-dabf3d} |
| CompatibleIDs | REG_MULTI_SZ | USB\MS_COMP_MTP USB\Class_068 |
| ConfigFlags | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| ContainerID | REG_SZ | {452450c1-5cfa-5f57-a4dd-1762b4} |
| DeviceDesc | REG_SZ | SM-G920F |
| Driver | REG_SZ | {eec5ad98-8080-425f-922a-dabf3d} |
| FriendlyName | REG_SZ | Galaxy S6 |
| HardwareID | REG_MULTI_SZ | USB\VID_04E8&PID_6860&REV_040 |
| LocationInformation | REG_SZ | Port_#0004.Hub_#0001 |
| LowerFilters | REG_MULTI_SZ | WinUsb |
| Mfg | REG_SZ | Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. |
| Service | REG_SZ | WUDFRd |
| UINumber | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |

Computer\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\ControlSet001\Enum\USB\VID_04E8&PID_6860\091609e803601c03

Network Interfaces

C:\windows\system32\cmd.exe

Wireless LAN adapter Wireless Network Connection:

Connection-specific DNS Suffix . : d.port.ac.uk
IPv4 Address. : 10.128.112.84
Subnet Mask : 255.255.254.0
Default Gateway : 10.128.113.254

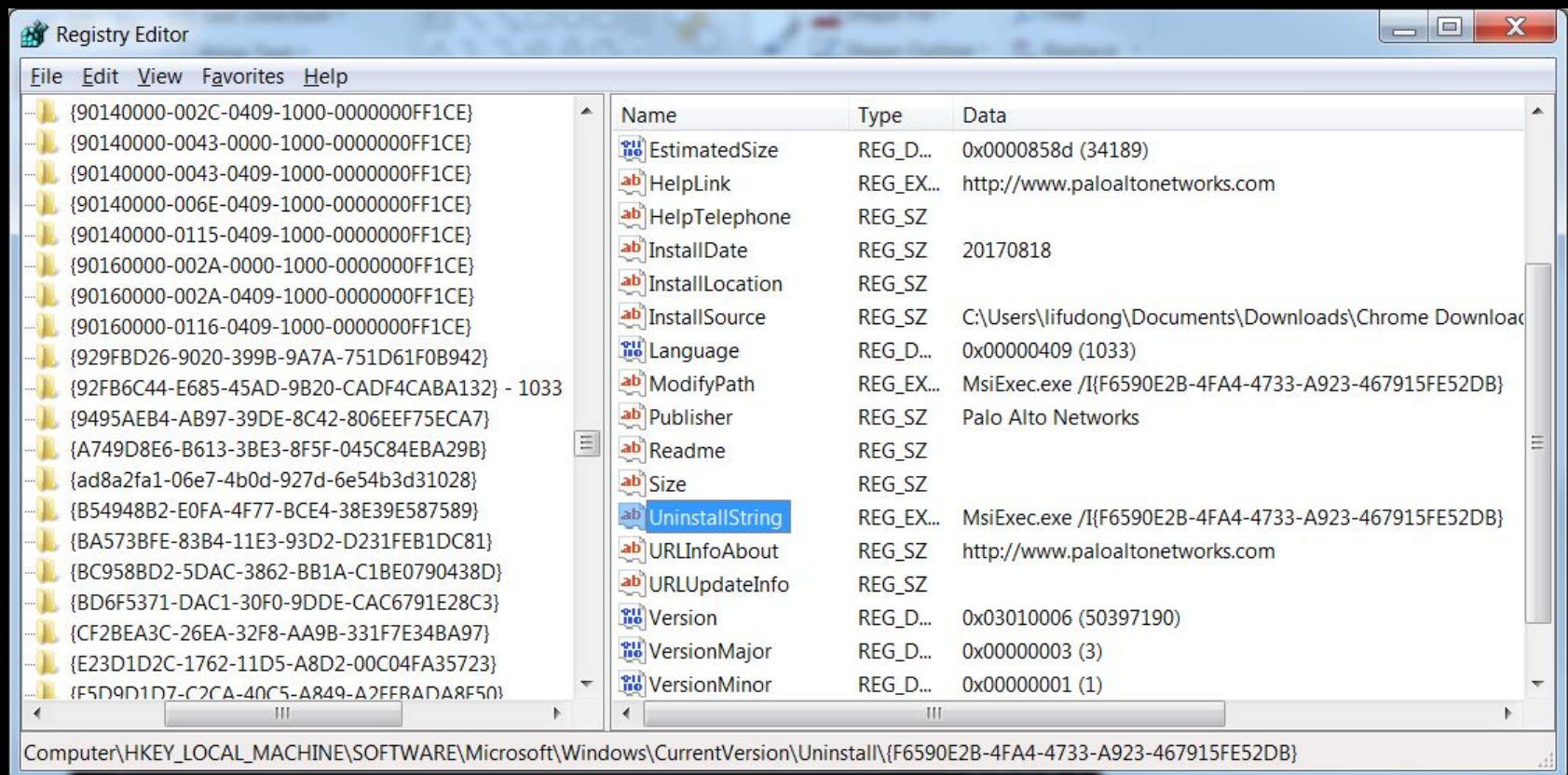
Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection:

Connection-specific DNS Suffix . : uni.ds.port.ac.uk
IPv4 Address. : 148.197.54.226
Subnet Mask : 255.255.255.0
Default Gateway : 148.197.54.254

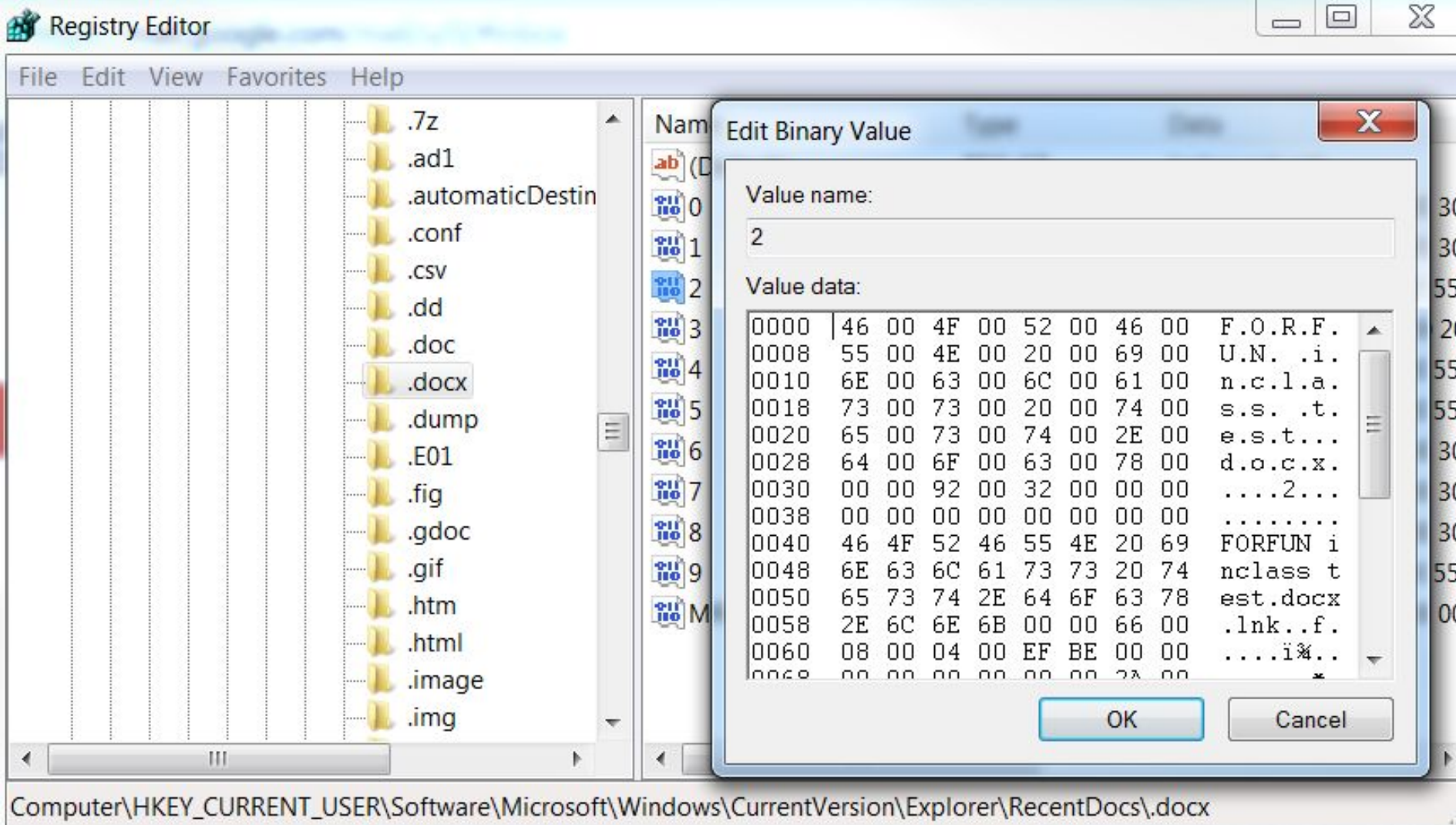
Computer\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\NetworkList\Profiles\{08A10BD3-6680

Installed Software

- HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall

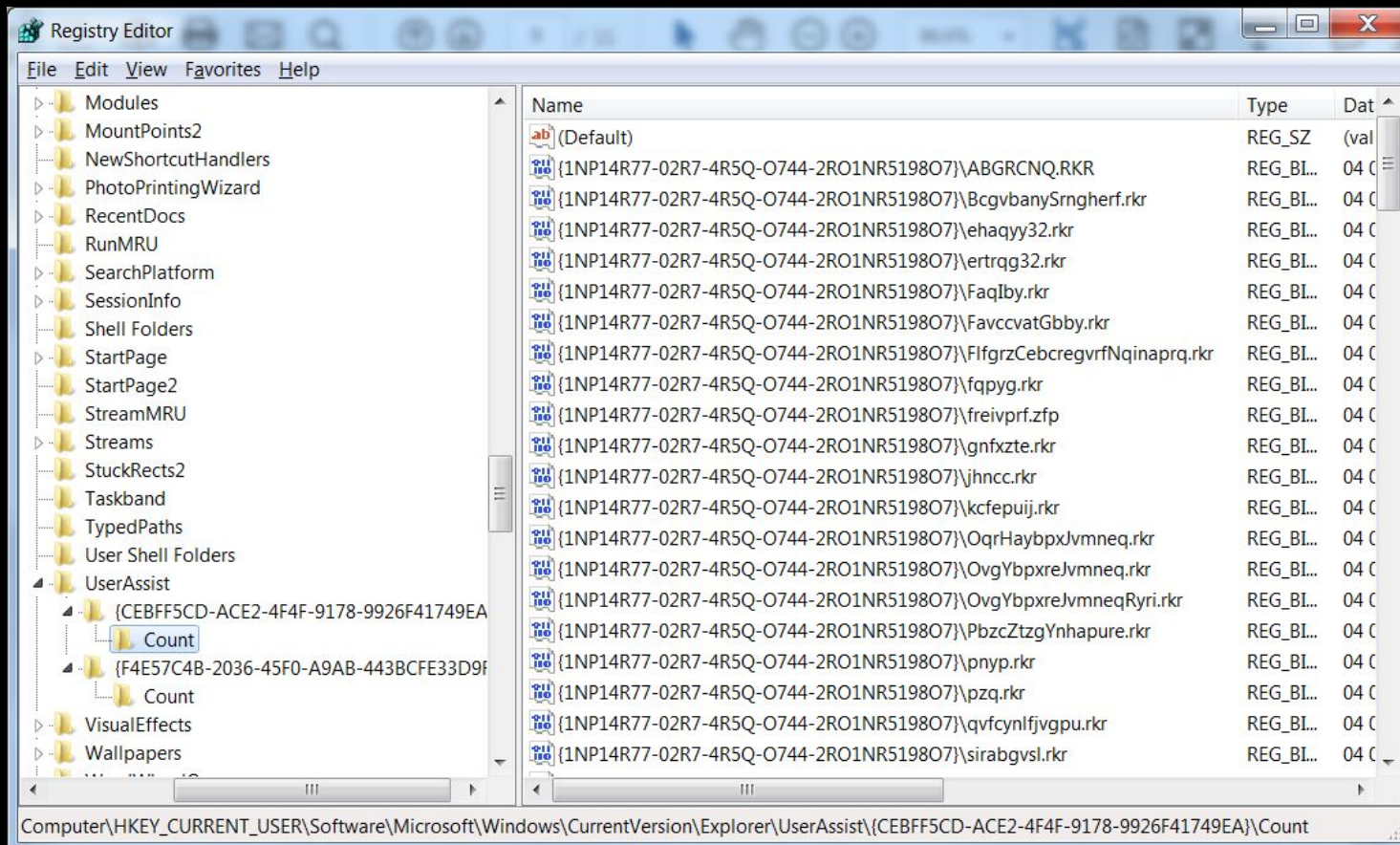


User Activities



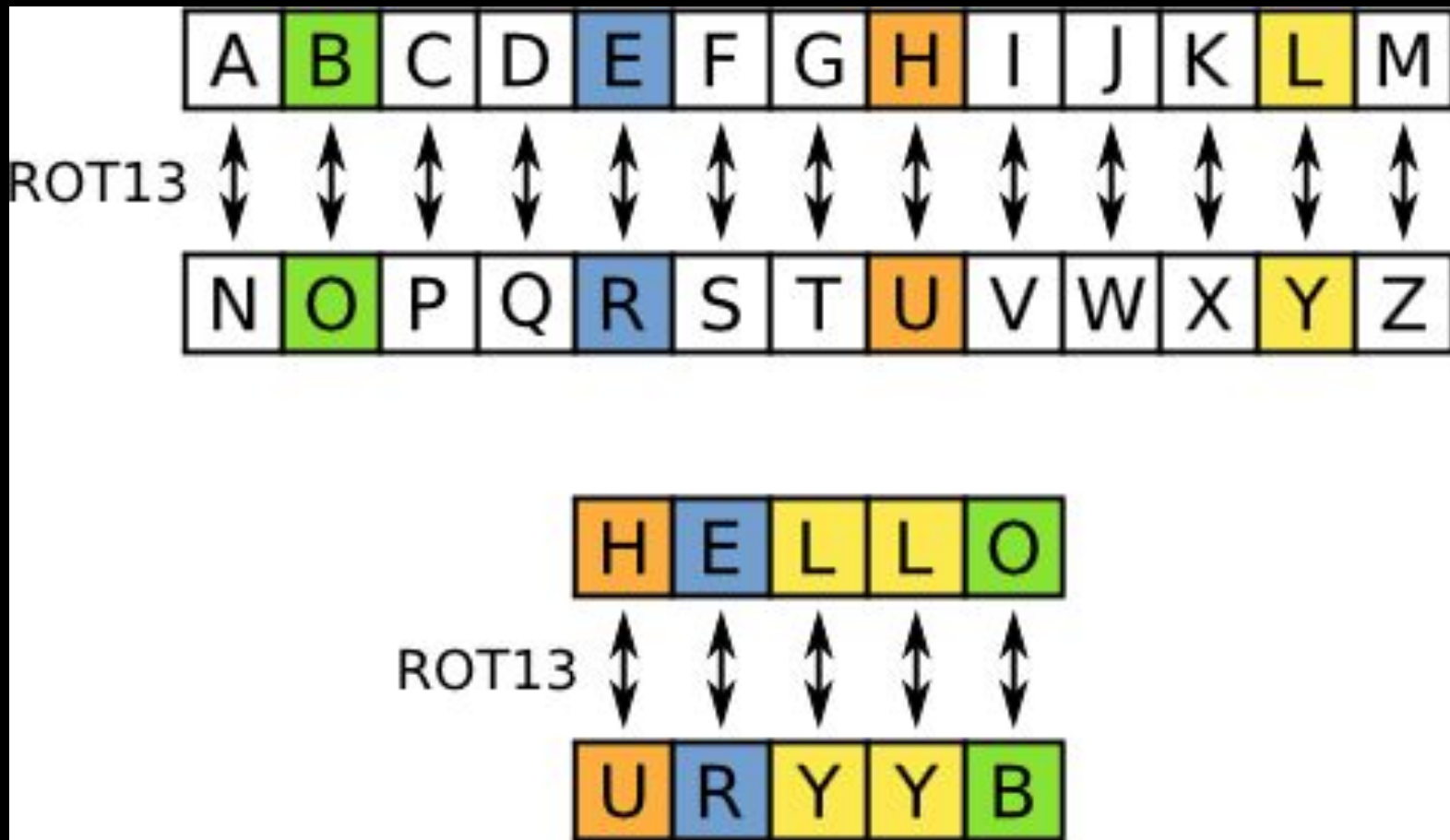
UserAssist (1)

- UserAssist holds information on programs being used by the user, including program name, the last execution date and time, and number of usage.

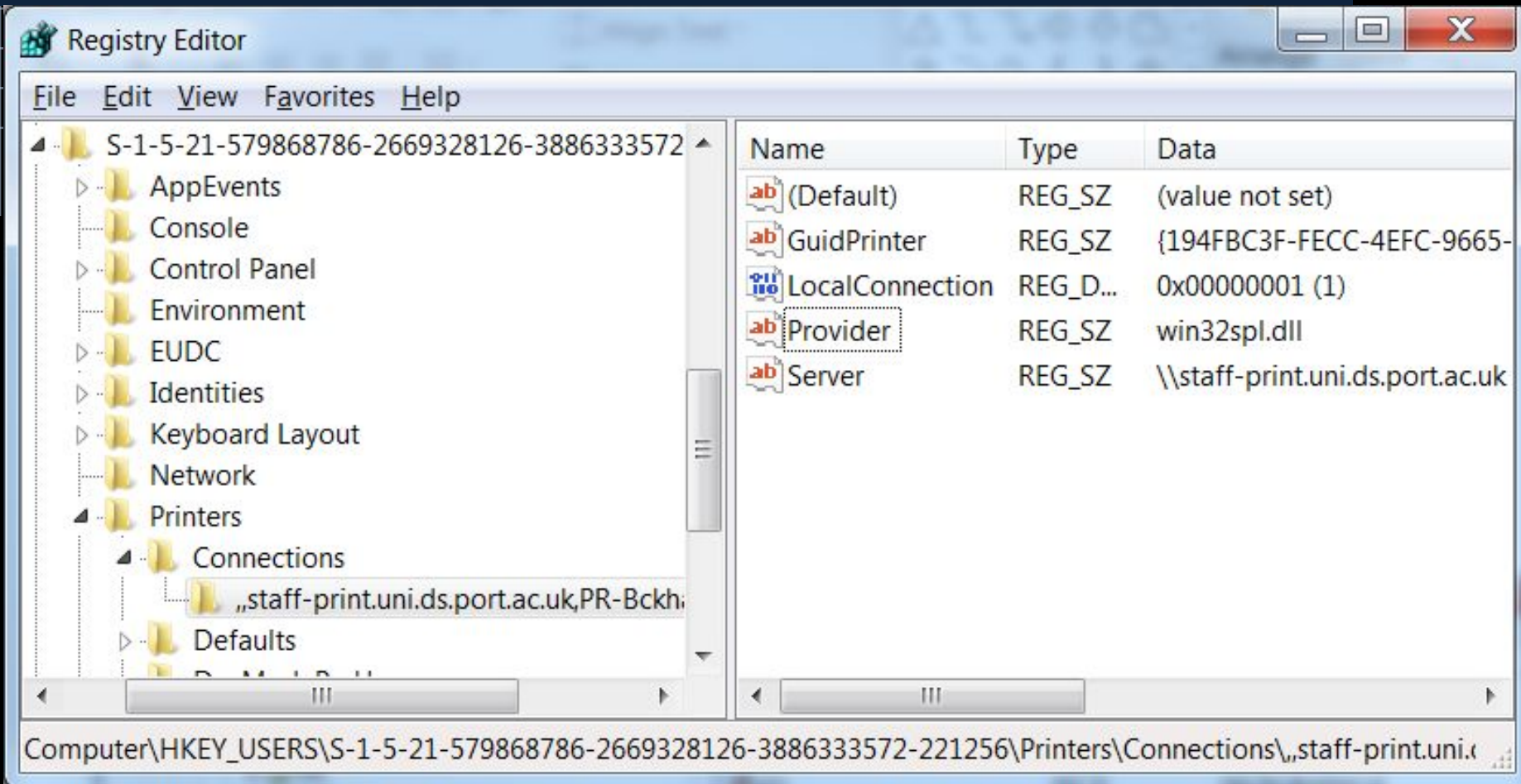


UserAssist (2)

- Data is encrypted with ROT13 (Rotate 13) by default.

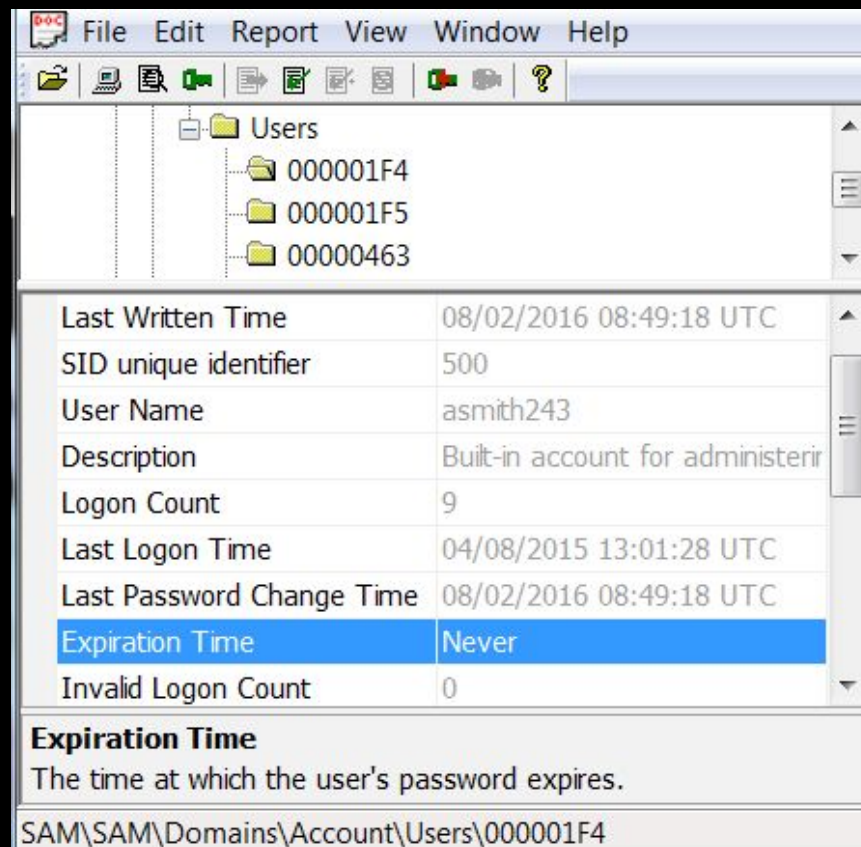


Printers



User Accounts

- Includes user name, logon count, last logon time, last password change, password hashes...



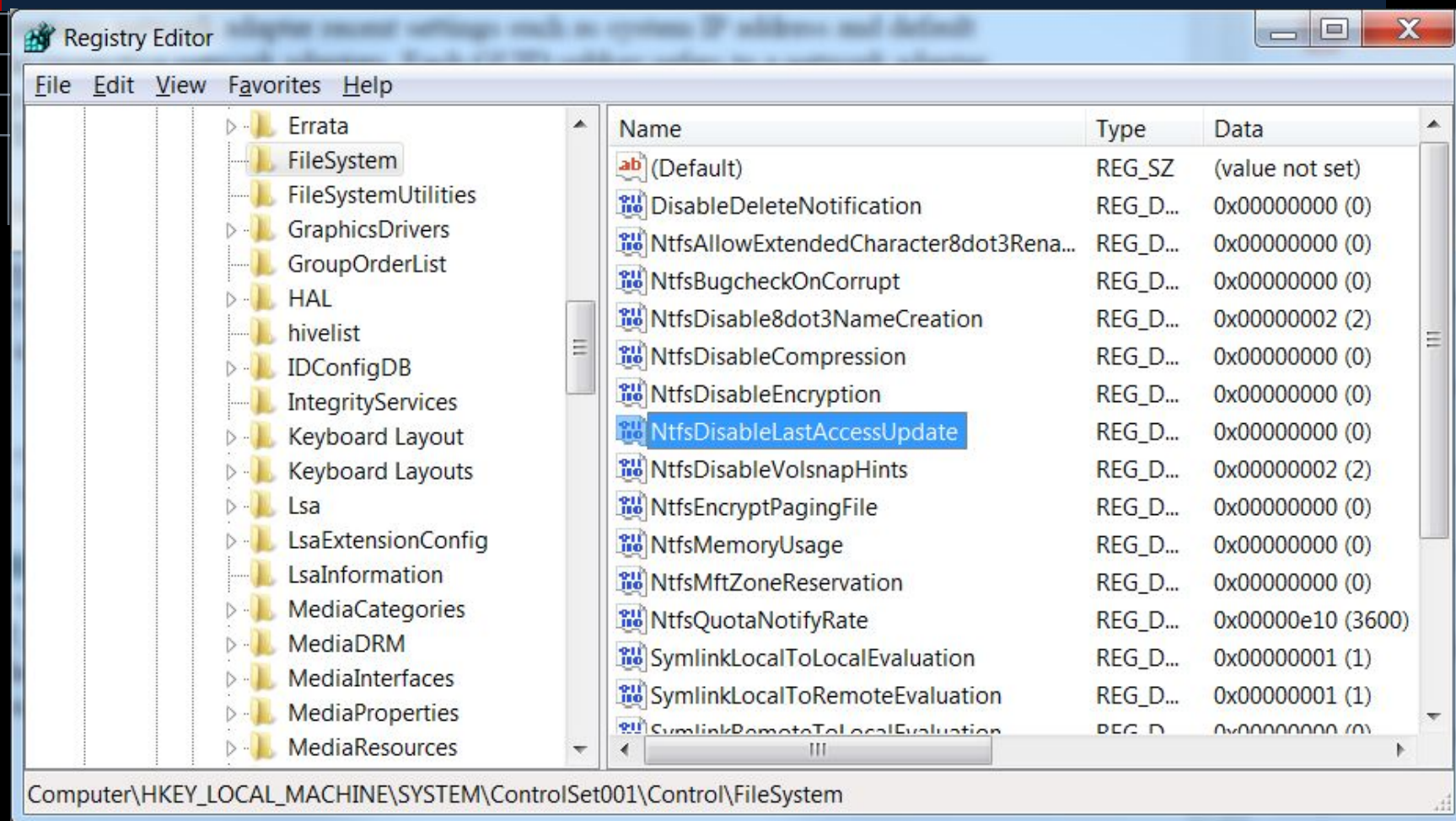
Passwords

- Security Accounts Manager (SAM): contains user account details including the password in hashed form
 - HKLM\SAM\Domains\Account\Aliases\Members
 - HKLM\SAM\Domains\Account\Users
- Windows protected storage
 - HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Protected Storage System Provider
- Internet Explorer remembered passwords
 - HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\IntelliForms



Interesting Registry Settings

Last Access Timestamps



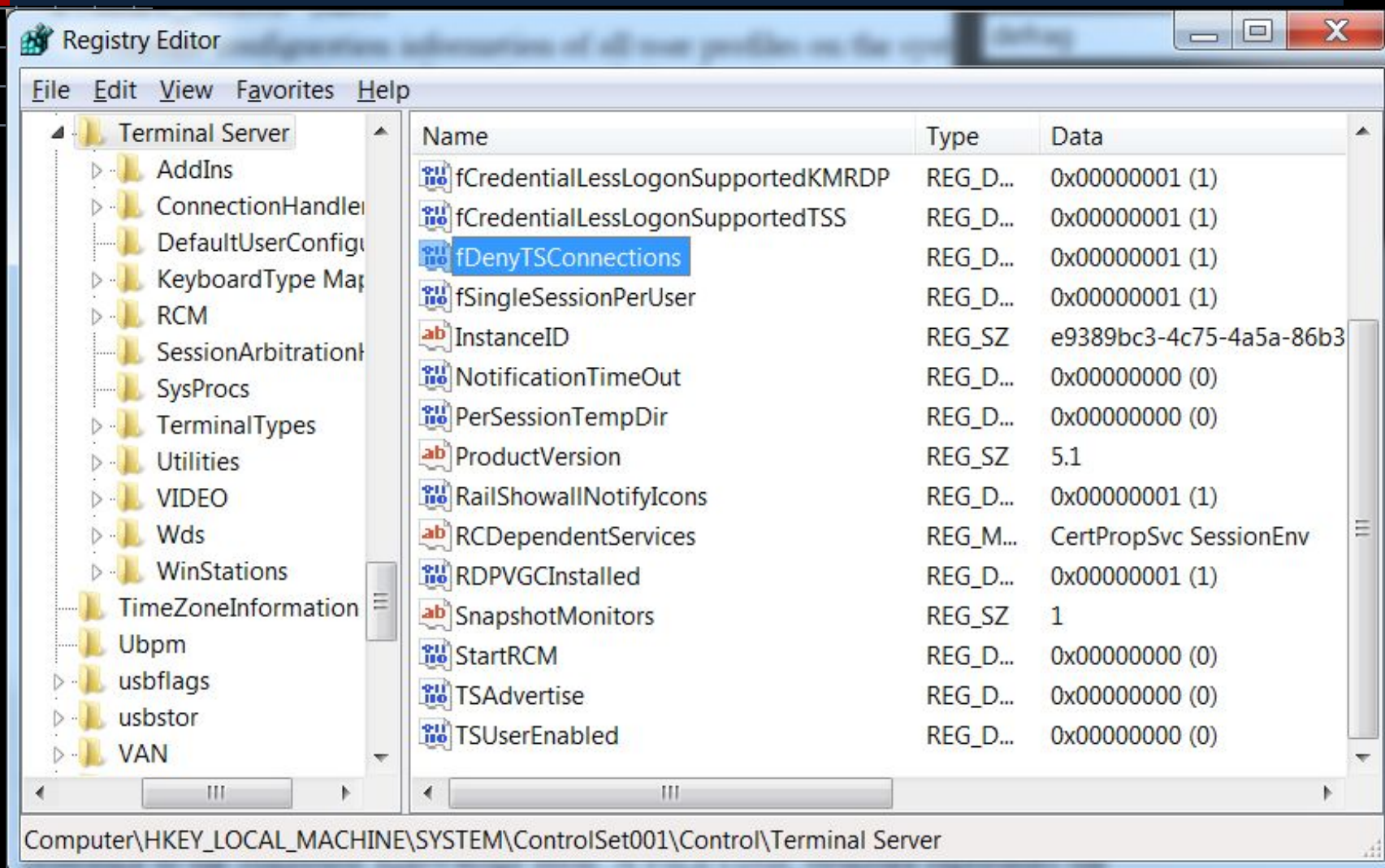
Defragmenter service

The screenshot shows the Windows 'Computer Management' console. The left-hand tree view is expanded to 'Services and WMI Controls' > 'Services'. The main pane displays the 'Disk Defragmenter' service. A description box on the left states: 'Description: Provides Disk Defragmentation Capabilities.' Below this, a link says 'Start the service'. The central table lists system services, with 'Disk Defragmenter' highlighted. The 'Actions' pane on the right shows 'Services' and 'Disk Defragmen...' as available actions.

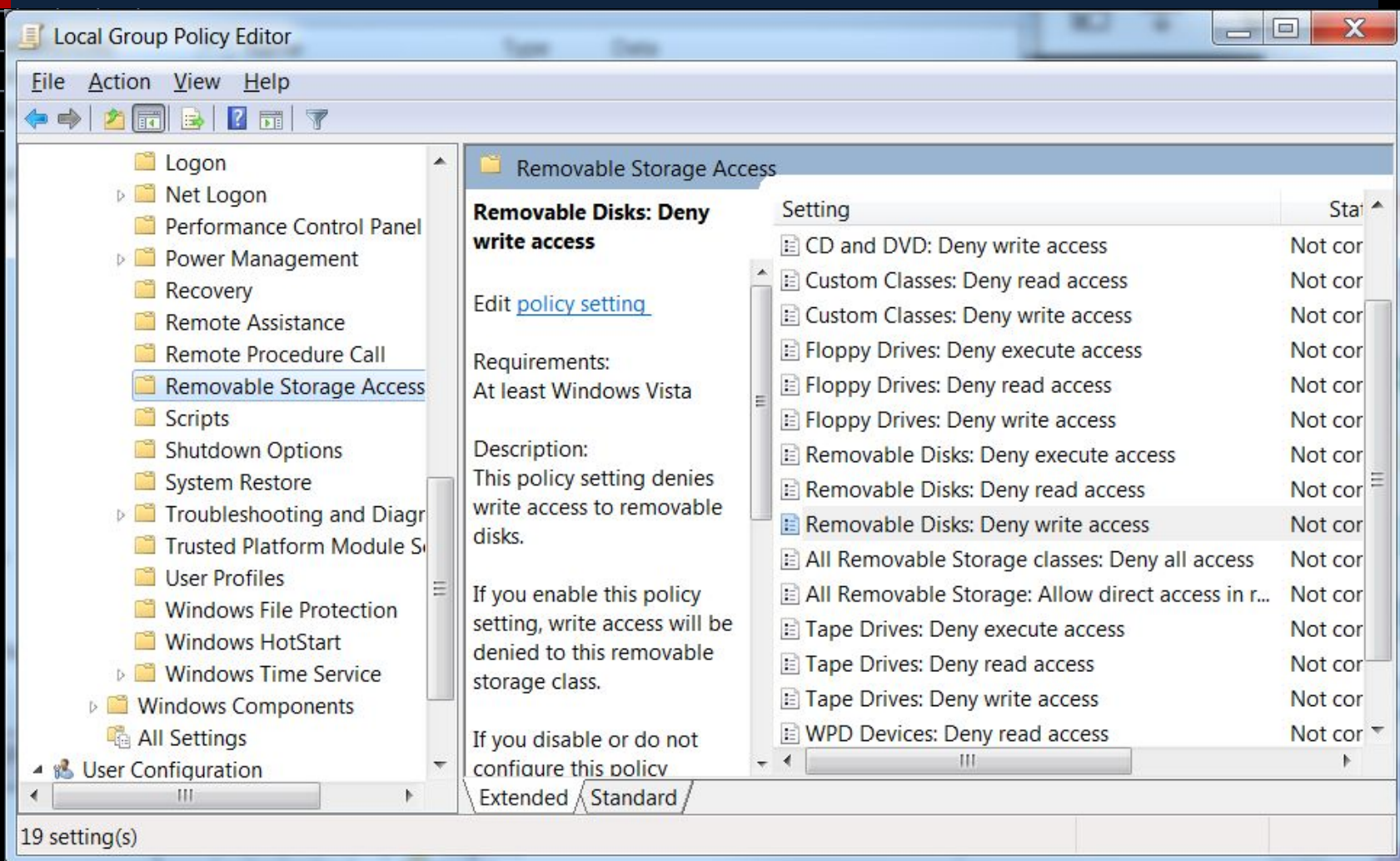
| Name | Description | Status | Startup Type |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|---------------|
| Credential Manager | Provides se... | Started | Manual |
| Cryptographic Services | Provides fo... | Started | Automatic |
| DCOM Server Process Launc... | The DCOML... | Started | Automatic |
| Desktop Window Manager ... | Provides De... | Started | Automatic |
| DHCP Client | Registers an... | Started | Automatic |
| Diagnostic Policy Service | The Diagno... | Started | Automatic |
| Diagnostic Service Host | The Diagno... | Started | Manual |
| Diagnostic System Host | The Diagno... | | Manual |
| Diagnostics Tracking Service | The Diagno... | Started | Automatic |
| Disk Defragmenter | Provides Di... | | Manual |
| Distributed Link Tracking Cli... | Maintains li... | Started | Automatic |
| Distributed Transaction Coo... | Coordinates... | | Manual |
| DNS Client | The DNS Cli... | Started | Automatic |

Computer\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\ControlSet001\services\defragsvc

Remote Desktop



Removable Storage Access



Swap/Page files

File Edit View Favorites Help

Computer\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Memory Management




| | Name | Type | Data |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| KnownDLLs | (Default) | REG_SZ | (value not set) |
| Memory Management | ClearPageFileAtShutdown | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| PrefetchParameters | da56a5e4-287c-4a5b-86da-140a... | REG_DWORD | 0x00000003 (3) |
| StoreParameters | DisablePagingExecutive | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| NamespaceSeparation | ExistingPageFiles | REG_MULTI_SZ | \??\C:\pagefile.sys |
| Power | LargeSystemCache | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| Quota System | NonPagedPoolQuota | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| SubSystems | NonPagedPoolSize | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| WPA | PagedPoolQuota | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| SNMP | PagedPoolSize | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| SQMSERVICEList | PagefileOnOsVolume | REG_DWORD | 0x00000001 (1) |
| Srp | PagefileUsage | REG_BINARY | 00 09 00 00 8e 1d |
| SrpExtensionConfig | PagingFiles | REG_MULTI_SZ | ?:\pagefile.sys |
| StillImage | PhysicalAddressExtension | REG_DWORD | 0x00000001 (1) |
| Storage | SecondLevelDataCache | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| StorageDevicePolicies | SessionPoolSize | REG_DWORD | 0x00000004 (4) |
| StorageManagement | SessionViewSize | REG_DWORD | 0x00000030 (48) |
| StorPort | SystemPages | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |
| StSec | | | |
| SystemInformation | | | |
| SystemResources | | | |

Recycle Bin

File Edit View Favorites Help

Computer\HKEY_USERS\DEFAULT\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\BitBucket\Volume\{b4f95e7b-4ef9-4

> Bluetooth
> CloudStore
Controls Folder
Controls Folder (Wow64)
> DIFxApp
▼ Explorer
 Accent
 Advanced
 ▼ BitBucket
 ▼ Volume
 {b4f95e7b-4ef9-4
Discardable
> FileExts
> MountPoints2
SharingMFU

| Name | Type | Data |
|--|-----------|--------------------|
|  (Default) | REG_SZ | (value not set) |
|  MaxCapacity | REG_DWORD | 0x00003778 (14200) |
|  NukeOnDelete | REG_DWORD | 0x00000000 (0) |

Conclusions

- Windows Registry contains a wealth of information, holding keys to confirm or refute a claim.
- Hence it is mission critical that forensic investigators can extract valuable information from it.