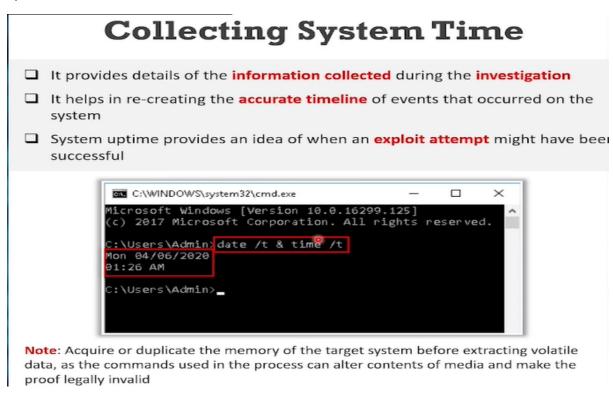
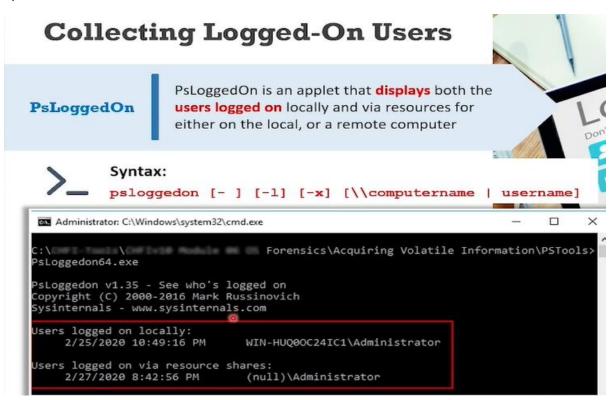
Windows forensics

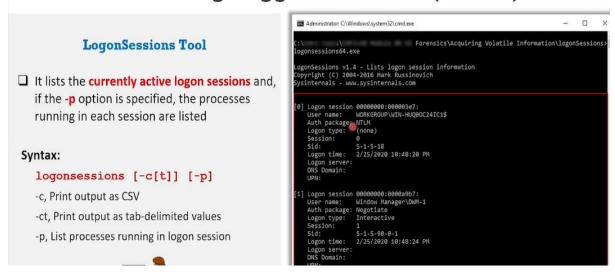
1)





3)

Collecting Logged-On Users (Cont'd)



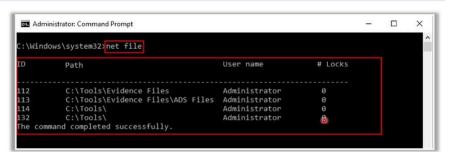
4)

Collecting Open Files: net file Command

Collect information about the files opened by the intruder using remote login

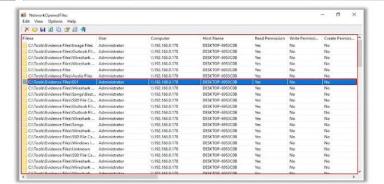
Displays details of open shared files on a server, such as a name, ID, and the number of each file locks, if any. It also closes individually shared files and removes file locks.
 The syntax of the net file command:
 net file [ID [/close]]





Collecting Open Files: Using NetworkOpenedFiles

- NetworkOpenedFiles is a utility for Windows OS that lists all the files currently opened on the host system through remote login
- ☐ It displays the Filename, Computer and Username, Permission information (Read/Write/Create), Locks count, File Size, File Attributes, etc.





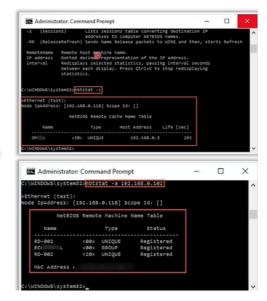
6)

Collecting Network Information

□ Intruders after gaining access to a remote system, try to discover other systems that are available on the network
□ NetBIOS name table cache maintains a list of connections made to other systems using NetBIOS
□ The Windows inbuilt command line utility nbtstat can be used to view NetBIOS name table cache
□ The nbtstat -c option shows the contents of the NetBIOS name cache, which contains NetBIOS name-to-IP address mappings

Syntax:

nbtstat [-a RemoteName] [-A IP address]
[-c] [-n][-r] [-R] [-RR] [-s] [-S]
[interval]



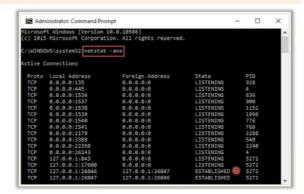
Collecting Information about Network Connections

- ☐ Collecting information about the network connections running to and from the victim system allows to locate logged attacker, IRCbot communication, worms logging into Command and Control server
- Netstat with —ano switch displays details of the TCP and UDP network connections including listening ports, and the identifiers

Syntax:

netstat [-a] [-e] [-n] [-o] [-p <Protocol>] [-r] [-s] [<Interval>]





9)

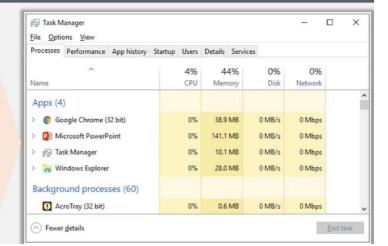
Process Information

☐ Investigate the processes running on a potentially compromised system and collect the information

Tools and commands used to collect detailed process information include:

☐ Task Manager displays the programs, processes, and services that are currently running on computer

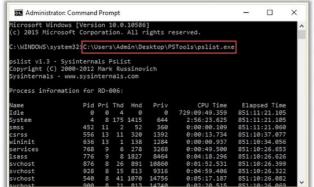




Process Information (Cont'd)

PsList

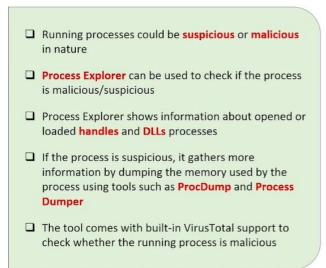
- ☐ PsList displays elementary information about all the processes running on a system
- -x switch shows processes, memory information, and threads

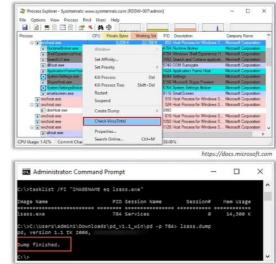




11)

Examining Process Memory





Collecting Network Status

- □ Collect information of the network interface cards (NICs) of a system to know whether the system is connected to a wireless access point and what IP address is being used
- ☐ Tools for the network status detection are:
 - ipconfig command
 - PromiscDetect tool
 - Promqry tool
- ☐ Ipconfig.exe is a utility native to Windows systems that displays information about NICs and their status
- ☐ Ipconfig /all command displays the network configuration of the NICs on the system

```
C:\Windows\system32>\frac{1}{2} \text{Intindows\system32} \text{Intindows\system32}
```

13)

ESE Database File

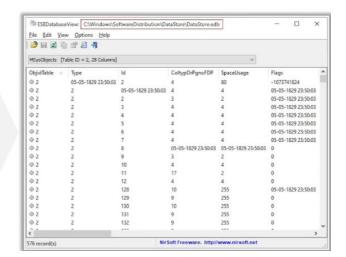
- ☐ Extensible Storage Engine (ESE) is a data storing technology used by various Microsoft-managed software such as Active Directory, Windows Mail, Windows Search, and Windows Update Client
- ☐ This database file is also known as JET Blue
- ☐ The file extension of ESE database file is .edb. Following are the examples of ESE database files:
 - contacts.edb Stores contacts information in Microsoft live products
 - WLCalendarStore.edb Stores calendar information in Microsoft Windows Live Mail
 - Mail.MSMessageStore Stores messages information in Microsoft Windows Live Mail
 - WebCacheV24.dat and WebCacheV01.dat Stores cache, history, and cookies information in Internet Explorer 10
 - Mailbox Database.edb and Public Folder Database.edb Stores mail data in Microsoft Exchange Server
 - Windows.edb Stores index information (for Windows search) by Windows OS
 - DataStore.edb Stores Windows updates information (Located under C:\windows\SoftwareDistribution\DataStore)
 - spartan.edb Stores the Favorites of Internet Explorer 10/11. (Stored under %LOCALAPPDATA%\Packages\Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe\AC\MicrosoftEdge\User\Default\DataStore\Data\nous er1\120712-0049)

Examining .edb File Using ESEDatabaseView

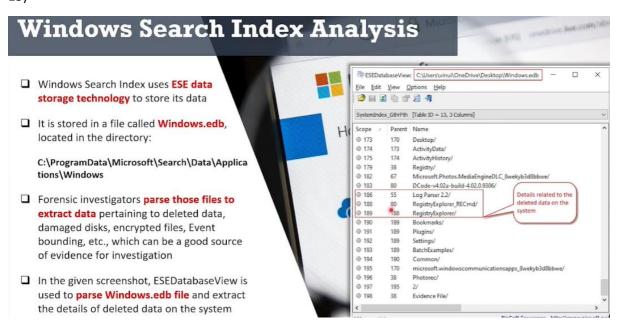
- ☐ The data stored inside ESE database files can be parsed by tools such as ESEDatabaseView and ViewESE
- During forensic investigation, the data extracted from these .edb files can serve as a potential evidence
- ESEDatabaseView lists all the tables and records found in the selected tables of .edb database file
- ☐ The data extracted from

 ESEDatabaseView can be exported to a

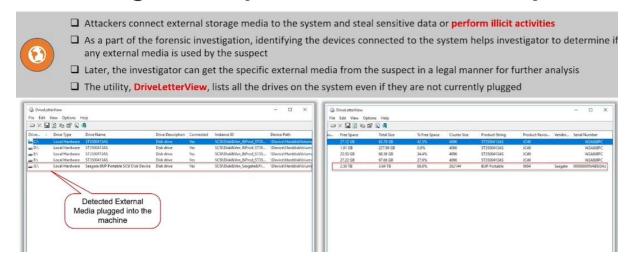
 HTML file

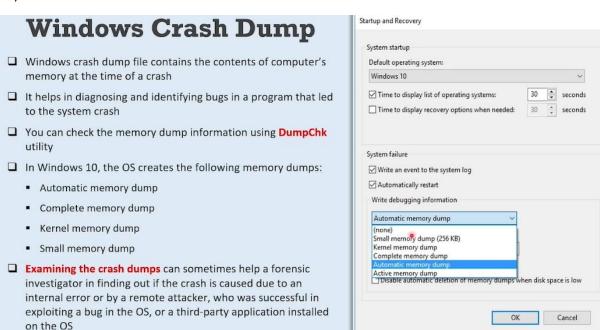


15)



Detecting Externally Connected Devices to the System





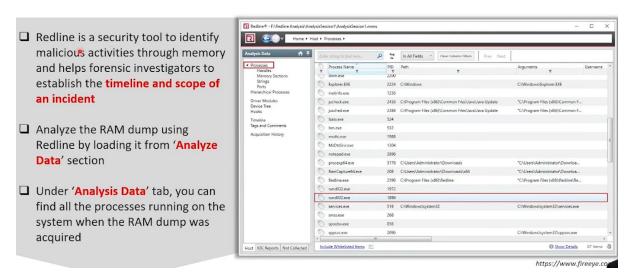
Random Access Memory (RAM) Acquisition

Examining volatile memory is as important as non-volatile memory Eile View Mode Help File List Memory Capture Browse From forensics point of view, examining RAM dumps provides system artifacts such Include pagefile pagefile.sys as running services, accessed files and media, Create AD1 file system processes, network information, and malware activity Capture Memory During live acquisition, investigators use tools such as Belkasoft RAM Capturer and AccessData FTK Imager

20)

to perform RAM dumps

Memory Forensics: Malware Analysis Using Redline



Memory Forensics: Malware Analysis Using Redline (Cont'd)

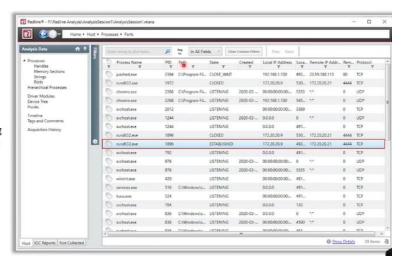


Click on 'Ports' under 'Processes' tab, where you can find all the connections available when the RAM dump was acquired



From the screenshot, it is observed that the Process 'rundll32.exe', PID 1896 is making connection to Remote IP Address 172.20.20.21 over Port 4444, which looks suspicious





22)

Windows Registry

- ☐ Every action performed by the user on the machine is **recorded in the Windows Registry**; Hence, it is a good source of evidence during forensic investigation
- ☐ With respect to data persistence, Windows Registry hives are divided into:

Non-volatile:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHIN

HKEY_USERS

Volatile:

HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT

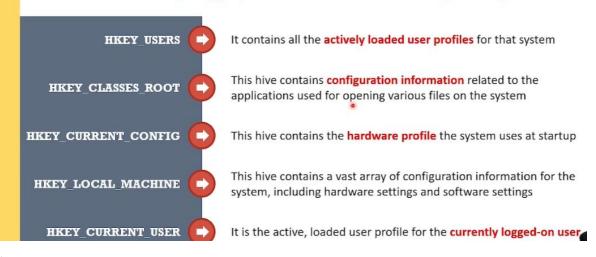
HKEY_CURRENT_USER

HKEY_CURRENT_CONFIG

☐ The volatile hives are captured during **live analysis** of the system while the non-volatile hives are stored on the hard drive

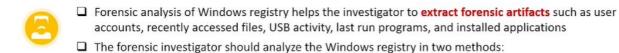
Windows Registry (Cont'd)

Hives in the Windows registry play a critical role in the functioning of the system:



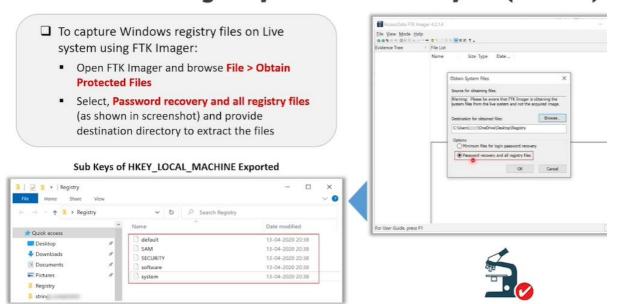
24)

Windows Registry: Forensic Analysis



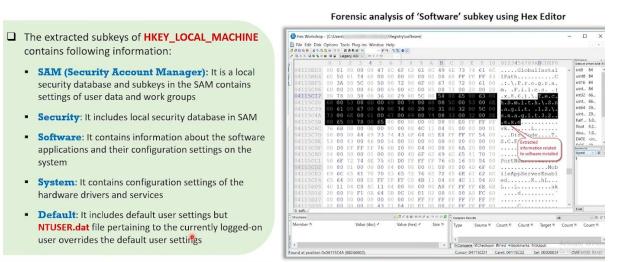
The investigator examines the registry files stored on the captured evidence file. These files are located in the C:\Windows\System32\config folder. Live Analysis □ The investigator can use built-in registry editor to examine registry and also use tools like FTK Imager to capture registry files from live system for analysis

Windows Registry: Forensic Analysis (Cont'd)

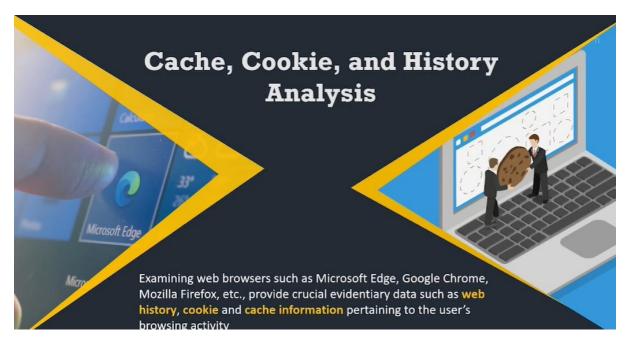


25)

Windows Registry: Forensic Analysis (Cont'd)



Note: The forensic investigator can examine these registry files using tools such as Hex Workshop to extract useful information



27)

Cache, Cookie, and History Analysis: Google Chrome

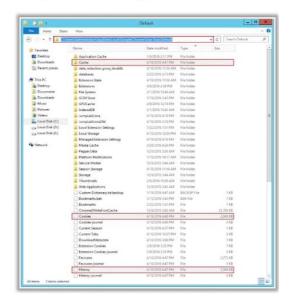
Google Chrome - Cache, cookies, and history are stored in the following system locations:

History and Cookies Location:

C:\Users\{user}\AppData\Local\Google\
Chrome\User Data\Default

Cache Location:

C:\Users\{user}\AppData\Local\Google\
Chrome\User Data\Default\Cache



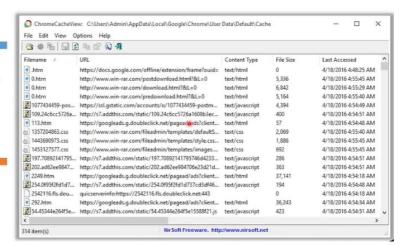
Analysis Tool: ChromeCacheView

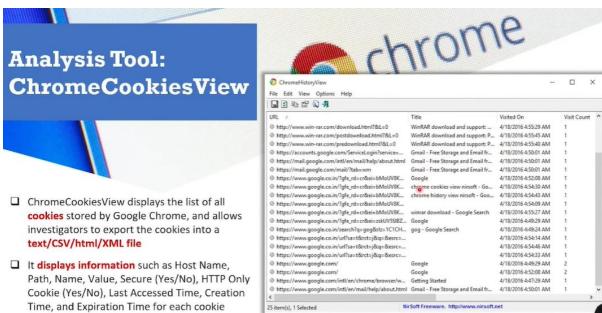
1

ChromeCacheView is a **small utility** that reads the **cache folder** of Google Chrome and displays the list of all files currently stored in the cache

2

It displays the information such as URL, Content Type, File Size, Last Accessed Time, Expiration Time, Server Name, and Server Response

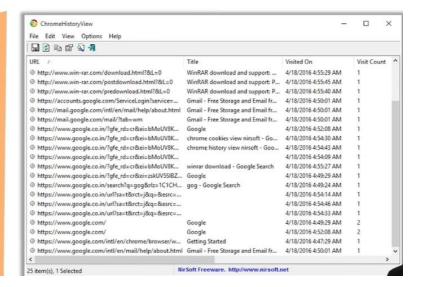




Analysis Tool: ChromeHistoryView

- ☐ ChromeHistoryView reads the history data file of Google Chrome and displays the list of all visited Web pages in the last days
- ☐ It displays information such as URL, Title, Visit Date/Time, Number of visits, number of times that the user typed this address (Typed Count), Referrer, and Visit ID for each visited web page





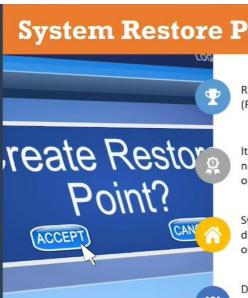
Cache, Cookie, and History Analysis: Microsoft Edge



28)

Windows File Analysis





System Restore Points (Rp.log Files)

Rp.log is the **restore point log** file located within the restore point (RPxx) directory

It includes value indicating the **type of the restore point**; a descriptive name for the restore point creation event, and the 64-bit FILETIME object indicating when the restore point was created

System restore points are created when applications and unsigned drivers are **installed**, when an auto update installation and a restore operation are performed

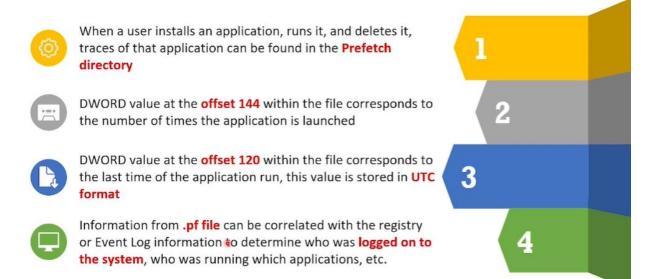
Description of the event that caused the restore point creation is written to the rp.log file, and this log file helps the **investigator to notice the date** when the application was installed or removed

System Restore Points (Change.log.x Files)

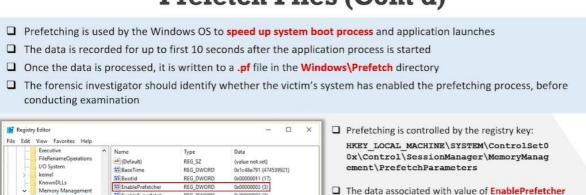
- File changes are recorded in the **change.log files**, which are located in the restore point directories
- Changes to the monitored files are detected by the restore point file system driver, the original filename is entered into the **change.log** file along with sequence number, type of change occurred, etc.
- Monitored file is preserved and copied to the restore point directory and renamed in the format Axxxxxxx.ext, where x represents a sequence number and .ext is the file's original extension
- First change.log file is appended with a sequence number and a new change.log file is created when the system is restarted

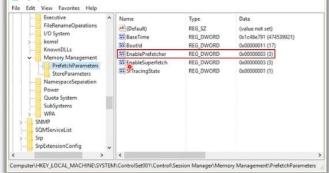


Prefetch Files



Prefetch Files (Cont'd)





- The data associated with value of EnablePrefetcher tells which form of prefetching the system uses:
- 0: Prefetching is disabled
- 1: Application prefetching is enabled
- 2: Boot prefetching is enabled
- 3: Both application and boot prefetching are enabled

Image Files



The **metadata** present in a JPEG image file depends largely on the application that created or modified it



For e.g., digital cameras embed Exchangeable Image File Format (EXIF) information in images, which can include the model and manufacturer of the camera, and even store thumbnails or audio information



You can use tools such as Exiv2, IrfanView, and the Image::MetaData::JPEG Perl module to view, retrieve, and in some cases modify the metadata embedded in JPEG image files



Tools such as **ExifReader**, **EXIF Library**, and **ExifTool** display **EXIF** data found in a JPEG image

29)

Metadata in Different File Systems (Cont'd)

How time stamps are displayed and changed in the FAT 16 and NTFS file systems is shown below

FAT 16 file system

- ☐ Copy myfile.txt from C:\ to C:\subdir on the same file system (FAT 16)
 - Myfile.txt retains the same modification date, but the creation date is updated to the current date and time
- Move myfile.txt from C:\ to C:\subdir on the same file system (FAT 16)
 - Myfile.txt retains the same modification and creation dates
- Copy myfile.txt from a FAT16 partition to an NTFS partition
 - Myfile.txt retains the same modification date, but the creation date is updated to the current date and time
- Move myfile.txt from a FAT16 partition to an NTFS partition
 - Myfile.txt retains the same modification and creation dates

NTFS file system

- Copy myfile.txt from C:\ to C:\subdir on the same file system (NTFS)
 - Myfile.txt retains the same modification date, but the creation date is updated to the current date and time
- Move myfile.txt from C:\ to C:\subdir on the same file system (NTFS)
 - Myfile.txt retains the same modification and creation dates

