

Digital forensics: hands-on exercise (Scenario & Step by Step Guide)

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HACKING CASE SCENARIO

On 09/20/04, a Dell CPi notebook computer, serial # VLQLW, was found abandoned along with a wireless PCMCIA card and an external homemade 802.11b antennae. It is suspected that this computer was used for hacking purposes, although cannot be tied to a hacking suspect, G=r=e=g S=c=h=a=r=d=t. (The equal signs are just to prevent web crawlers from indexing this name; there are no equal signs in the image files.) Schardt also goes by the online nickname of "Mr. Evil" and some of his associates have said that he would park his vehicle within range of Wireless Access Points (like Starbucks and other T-Mobile Hotspots) where he would then intercept internet traffic, attempting to get credit card numbers, usernames & passwords.

Find any hacking software, evidence of their use, and any data that might have been generated. Attempt to tie the computer to the suspect, G=r=e=g S=c=h=a=r=d=t.

A DD image (in seven parts: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and notes) and a EnCase image (second part) of the abandoned computer have already been made.

For this session, we will only use a EnCase image (second part) (PC.E01 & PC.E02).

Source: NIST (2018). https://www.cfreds.nist.gov/Hacking Case.html.

Snapshot of data we're using

Tool we're using: Autopsy

Link: https://www.autopsy.com/

MacOS: https://github.com/DuffyAPP-IT/Autopsy-macOS-Install

Create a folder: "Hacking case"

Image files to use: EnCase image files ("E01" & "E02")

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STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

1. Launch Autopsy and create a "New Case"

(Pre-requisite: Install the software (it's already installed on your VM))

a. Click "new case"



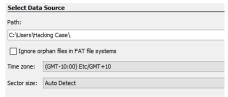
- b. Click next
- c. Click finish to create the case
- d. Now that you have an empty case, click the "Add data source" button in the top left

2. Add Data Source

a. Choose "Disk image or VM file" in the popup

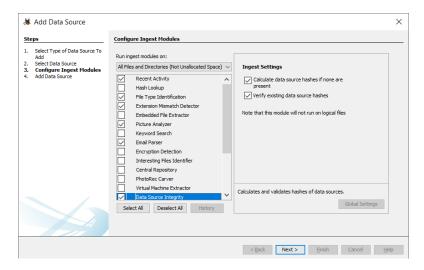


- b. For the path, choose the .E01 file we downloaded with PowerShell earlier
- As long as both files (.E01 and .E02) are in the same folder Autopsy will automatically ingest both and give you the full image For the Time Zone choose (GMT -10:00) Etc/GMT+10



- c. Click next
- d. The next screen lets you choose ingest modules
- An ingest module takes the data in the image and parses it for various types of information such as most recently accessed programs and email addresses
- Just select all so we have everything. (This file is not too large and you can work while the modules run.)
- Since this session has a time limit, we would select only 6 modules on the 'Not Unallocated Space'.

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- e. You can click each module to read what it looks for
- As the modules run you can get any alerts or progress from two different places in Autopsy The bottom right will show you the module being run as well as the progress

 Recent Activity for PC.E01 17% (Image...) 3
- Clicking on the symbol in the bottom right of this shows you any notifications form the modules



 The envelope symbol near the top right corner will show you all of the notifications from all of the modules



SCENARIO AND PRACTICE QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the image hash? Does the acquisition and verification hash match?
- 2. What operating system was used on the computer?
- 3. When was the install date?
- 4. Who is the registered owner?
- 5. What is the computer account name?