

# Digital Forensic Analysis

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## **Title: Digital Forensic analysis**

**Abstract-** Digital Forensics is a branch of Forensic Science which is used in crime investigation. People (or rather the relatives or friends of the criminals/accused persons) destroy the evidence in order to save the accused person. The destruction/destroying of the forensic evidence from crime scene is called as anti-forensics. The main aim of this project is to create digital crime scenes and carry out forensic and anti-forensic analysis to check the cyber security. This project uses several tools and techniques to carry out the work. The outcome was that yes it is difficult to investigate digital crimes but every criminal drops down some or the other clue and by minute analysis the investigation can be successful.

## Introduction

Forensic Science is the presenting the evidence/proof using scientific processes; while Digital forensic is a branch of Forensic Science that deals with careful extraction or mining of digital evidence that is accurate/valid and can be produced in the court. Like for example if there is a murder and if the victim had ordered something online then it will be recorded in the CCTV that this particular delivery person came at this this time and after that the murder happened. And even the notice that so and so product is to be delivered at this time (information from the online shopping site) can also be produced. The relatives/friends of the criminals or accused persons try to destroy the evidence / proofs from the crime scenes in order to save that particular person, due to human nature (relative's or friend's love for that accused person) and therefore destroy the evidence and as a result it gets difficult to investigate and justice is delayed. The measures used to destroy the evidence from the crime scenes are called as anti- digital forensics or anti- forensics. Anti-forensics is thwarting/destroying the evidence from the crime scenes thereby making forensic processes difficult , impossible or by delaying it and frustrating the forensic investigators.

## **1 Related works**

### **A) Enhanced Information through Forensics**

We know that there are anti forensic tools that can eliminate attack footprints and make investigation difficult. The researchers Changwei, Anoop and Duminda in their research aimed to use attack graphs in forensic examinations. The methodology they used included anti-forensic capabilities into attack graphs, so that missing evidence can be explained. As a result, they were able to show how attack graphs could be used to help forensic investigators narrow down the attack scenarios, along with evidence left by attackers. Observable limitation of their work from anti forensic technique was that they used TrueCrypt as vulnerability tool, most attackers no longer use TrueCrypt it leaves as systems trace on the boot loader.

Balogun and Shao in their work examined what data encoding add to information security and then spotted out its influences on the digital forensics of disk drives. The purpose was to converse the obtainable methods and tools to find solutions to the problems imposed by encryption. They used TrueCrypt as a study to illustrate their ideas. They further talked about some features of truecrypt that provides users with plausible deniability and nonrepudiation abilities. This makes digital forensics examinations of encrypted disk drives stiffer and less actualizable. The limitation in their work is the Truecrypt boot loader traces.

Benjamin researched on “Modeling and refinement of forensic data acquisition Specifications”, his aim was to define data acquisition tools. The approach which was used was the formal refinement language Event-B (Event B of the data acquisition functionality of digital forensics tools). Event B is an extension of Abrial’s B method Abrial for modeling distributed systems.

### **B) Enhanced Information Security through Anti-forensics Researchers:** Changwei,

Anoop, Duminda

**Work:** Model using evidence from security events for network analysis

**Aim:** How to use data obtained from security events to construct an attack scenario and build evidence graph

**Objective:** To achieve the accuracy and completeness of the evidence graph, to correlate evidence by reasoning the casualty, and use an anti-forensic database and corresponding graph to find the missing evidence

**Methodology:** prolog inductive reasoning, abductive reasoning, global reasoning and mapping evidence to construct evidence graph

## **2 METHODOLOGY**

### **Introduction**

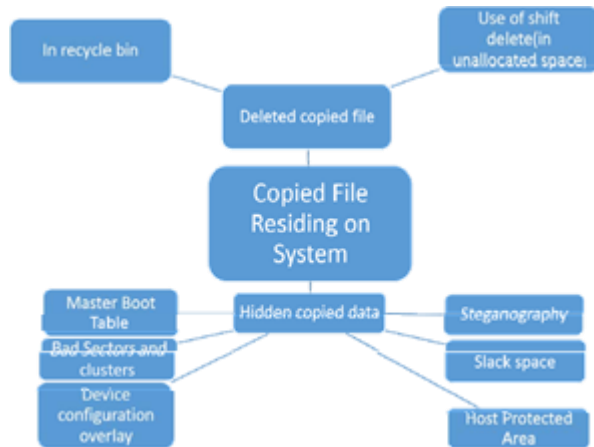
Before any forensic investigation can be carried out, there must have been a case at hand that needs evidence - especially evidence(s) relating to electronic media. Computer forensic examiners or investigators need to beware of possible circumvention techniques that computer criminals employ to defeat digital forensic approach known as Anti-forensic; but the aim of this work is to make the forensic examiner to be pro-active in investigations and to use reliable techniques. It will be unwrapping some things the investigator has to put under consideration before, during and after forensic examination.

### **Assumed case**

In Federal University of Technology Minna, there was a policy that nobody should for any reason copy any of the institution's file without authorization, but a disgruntled employee who has being asked to resign was caught copying some relevant files into his personal laptop from one of his colleague's company computer whom he had quarrel with recently. When his colleague caught him, he denied it in the presence of others and when his system was searched by the rest colleagues they found nothing incriminating or any unauthorized file in his possession pertaining to FUT Minna, and now a forensic investigator has being brought to the scene to help out, with the analysis.

Virtual environment would be used to simulate this crime, and the target offender's machine would be assumed to be running Window 7, any windows operating system would work.

Methodology used in this work can be broken down into: Volatile data analysis and Non-volatile/persistent data analysis.



### Pseudo Code

Seized System;

while Copied file resides on system The data is hidden; if data is hidden

check:

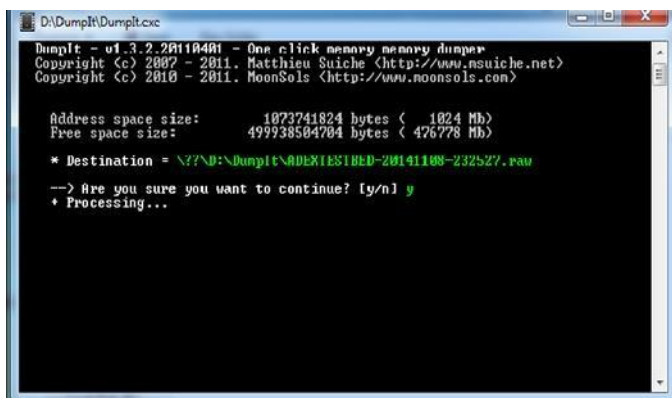
- Master Boot Table,
- Bad Sectors/clusters,
- Device Configuration overlay,
- Steganography,

- Slack Space, OR
  - Host Protected Area;Else
- The data has been deleted

If the data has been deleted check recycle bin or unallocated space;

### **3 Experimental work**

The experimental framework consists the use of forensic and anti-forensic tools and techniques to show how the digital forensic investigation works. It involves the installing of the test bed and the setup of test bed. The test bed used in this project is on virtual machine which utilizes the efficiency but yet less expensive forensic operation. VMware workstation 10 was used and window 7 ultimate was installed as guest operating system (OS) on the virtual machine, other forensic tools (FTs) were installed on the host OS while the Anti-Forensic tools (AFT) was ran on the guest OS. The figure below shows the different interface of the experiment



DumpIt capturing RAM image

```

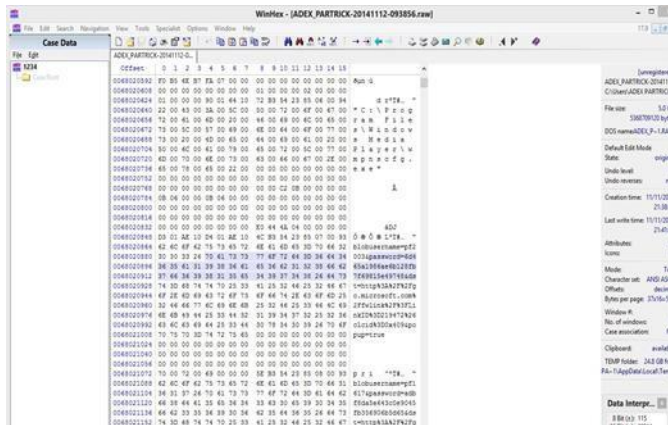
C:\Users\ADEX PARTRICK\Desktop\DumpIt\DumpIt.exe
DumpIt - v1.3.2.20110401 - One click memory memory dumper
Copyright (c) 2007 - 2011, Matthieu Suiche <http://www.msliche.net>
Copyright (c) 2010 - 2011, MoonSols <http://www.moonsols.com>

Address space size:      5368709120 bytes < 5120 Mb>
Free space size:        28095062016 bytes < 26793 Mb>

* Destination = \\?\C:\Users\ADEX PARTRICK\Desktop\DumpIt\ADEX_PARTRICK-201108-071320.raw

--> Are you sure you want to continue? [y/n]
  
```

DumpIt asking to proceed for RAM image processing



WinHex returning various password hashes

## **4 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

In this paper, widely acceptable forensic methodology such as identifying, collecting, analyzing and reporting have been investigated. Hidden places on the logical and physical structure of the computer where evidence may reside were described and some forensic tools and their application to real life situation presented. Due to human inherent element such as being bias as a result of sentiment case measure should be put in place to avoid investigators handling cases that he may pick interest in or that has to do with people that know him directly or indirectly, if such issue arises where investigator has interest in the case, it should be awarded to external professional examiner.

## **Reference**

- [1] L.Changwei, S. Anoop, & W. Duminda, (2014). A Model Towards Using Evidence From Security Events. A Model Towards Using Evidence From Security Events, vol. 10, 103- 122
- [2] M. Balogun & Y. Z. Shao, "Privacy Impacts of Data Encryption on the Efficiency". International Journal of Advanced Computer Science and Applications, vol. 4, no. 5, 2013, pp. 36-40
- [3] A. Benjamin, "Modelling and refinement of forensic data acquisition", Digital Investigation, vol. 11, no. 2, 2014, pp. 90- 101