

**A ■ P ■ U**  
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## **Digital Forensics and Cyber Security Tools** **Final Submission Portfolio**

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# 1 Introduction

The incorporation of technology into our everyday lives has led to a new world of possibilities at the public's' finger tips, with great advances in productivity and communication worldwide. This great leap has of course come with consequences, Cyber crime has risen at an alarming rate, and has no indication of slowing down anytime soon. The FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) released the annual IC3 report (Internet Crime Complaint Centre) in 2020, which detailed the shocking rise of Internet crime reports, increasing in more than 300,000 cases, as seen in figure 1.

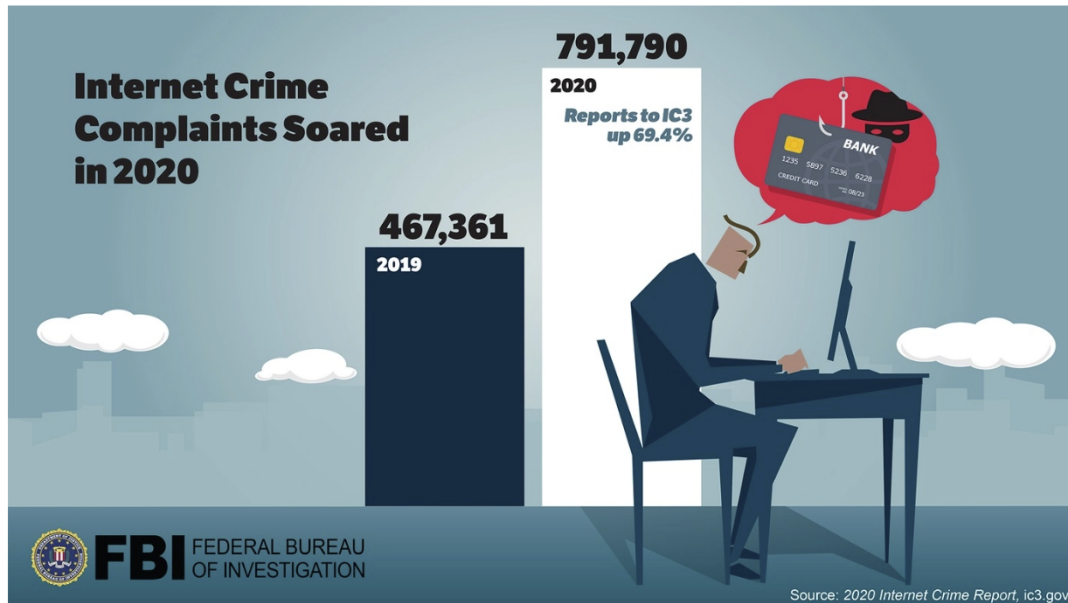


Figure 1: IC3 reported cases from 2020 compared to 2019 (FBI, 2021)

The report estimates that \$4.2 Billion was lost to Internet Crime in 2020 (FBI, 2020), and of course this figure will keep rising higher and higher. From this a bustling industry of Security Researchers have emerged, with many different areas to specialise in. Some examples are Penetration testers, who vigorously test a businesses' security with the intentions of finding weak points before a malicious hacker can, and a Digital Forensics Investigator, who aims to uncover evidence left behind on a suspects' devices. The common link between all these professions is the use of tools to aid in their Cyber Security and Digital Forensic Investigations, taking the form of specialised software (Al-Matari et al, 2018). Tools are essential to any successful investigation, and can perform a huge variety of functions, from password cracking to network reconnaissance, it is vital that any Cyber Security specialist is familiar with the tools of the trade.

This report aims to give an overview of everyday tools used in Digital Forensics and Cyber Security cases, by explaining their function, results and how they can be used in an investigation. This will be done through a step by step utilising screenshots to properly display the use of the tool. The Report will end on a case study investigation followed by a conclusion of the findings.



## 2 Portfolio 1: Hex Editor, Wireshark, and Exif Tool

### 2.1 Hex Editor

#### 2.1.1 Introduction

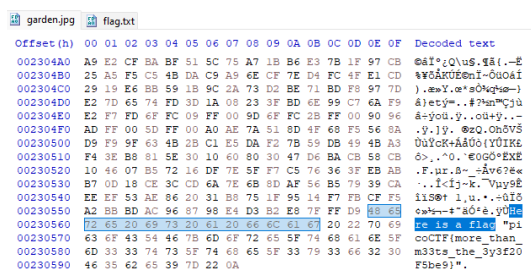
A Hex Editor is tool used to view and edit binary data of a file, presenting the data in hexadecimal format. Hex Editors are a useful tool in Digital Forensics and Cyber Security Investigations as they allow the user the verify the file type authenticity by checking the file signatures. Malicious actors can easily change the file type to something else in an attempt to hide the true contents, by using a Hex Editor the true file type can be easily found out by cross referencing the file signature with an online database. It is beneficial to be able to recognise file signatures, so a table of common file types with signatures has been constructed, as seen in Table 1.

Hex Editor Results	
File Format	File Signature
JPEG (.jpg)	FF D8 FF E0
PNG (.png)	89 50 4E 47 0D 0A 1A 0A
Word Document (.docx)	50 4B 03 04
Word Document (.doc)	D0 CF 11 E0 A1 B1 1A E1
PDF Document (.pdf)	25 50 44 46
Excel Spreadsheet (.xls)	D0 CF 11 E0 A1 B1 1A E1
Excel Spreadsheet (.xlsx)	50 4B 03 04
Powerpoint (.ppt)	D0 CF 11 E0 A1 B1 1A E1
Powerpoint (.pptx)	50 4B 03 04
Executable File (.exe)	4D 5A
MP3 File (.mp3)	49 44 33

Table 1: Table displaying File Signatures for popular File types

#### 2.1.2 Hidden data in garden.jpg

A file was provided, named “garden.jpg”, that was suspected of having hidden content on it. The image was opened in HxD, a free Hex Editing software, and the file signature was verified using Table 1. The file was checked over, and was found to contain hidden text after the end of the file, as seen Figure 2, which read “Here is a flag”. If this had been a real scenario the “search/find” feature in the software would have been used to search for important phrases like passwords or links.



Offset (h)	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E	0F	Decoded text
002304A0	A9	E2	CF	BA	BF	51	5C	75	A7	1B	B6	E3	7B	1F	97	CB	@!~Q\us.gä(.-E
002304B0	25	A5	F5	C5	4B	DA	C9	A9	6E	CF	7E	D4	FC	4F	E1	CD	WÖÄRÜEñI-ÖuoäI
002304C0	29	19	E6	BB	59	1B	9C	2A	73	D2	BE	71	BD	F8	97	7D	).asY.e*s0uqto-
002304D0	E2	7D	65	74	FD	3D	1A	08	23	3F	BD	6E	99	C7	6A	F9	ä)etj~..#?m"Çju
002304E0	E2	F7	FD	6F	FC	09	FF	00	9D	6F	FC	2B	FF	00	90	96	ä=pu.y..öuqj.-
002304F0	AD	FF	00	5D	FF	00	A0	AE	7A	51	8D	4F	68	F5	56	8A	.y.l9. #zQ.ChöVŠ
00230500	D9	F9	9F	63	4B	2B	C1	E5	DA	F2	7B	59	D8	49	4B	A3	ÜüYcK+ÄÄü(YÜIK
00230510	F4	3E	B8	81	5E	30	10	60	80	30	47	D6	BA	CB	58	CB	ö>..^0.'ë0Gö°EXE
00230520	10	46	07	B5	72	16	DF	7E	5F	F7	C5	76	36	3F	EB	AB	.F.ur.B~.sÄv6?e*
00230530	B7	0D	18	CE	3C	CD	6A	7E	6B	8D	AF	56	B5	79	39	CA	..i<ij~k.Vuy9E
00230540	EE	EF	53	AE	86	20	31	B0	75	1F	95	14	FF	FB	CF	F5	1130! 1,u..-ü5
00230550	A3	BB	BD	AC	96	87	98	E4	D3	B0	E8	7F	FF	D9	6E	69	cahe~#sÖtê.yüÖ
00230560	72	65	20	68	73	20	61	20	66	6C	61	20	22	70	65		Here is a flag "pi
00230570	63	6F	43	54	46	7B	6D	6F	72	65	5F	74	68	61	6E	5F	coCTF{more_than
00230580	6D	33	33	74	73	5F	74	68	65	5F	33	79	33	66	32	30	m33ts_the_3y3f20
00230590	46	35	62	65	39	7D	22	0A									F5be9}".

Figure 2: Hidden Text within “garden.jpg”

### 2.1.3 Hidden Flag in flag.txt

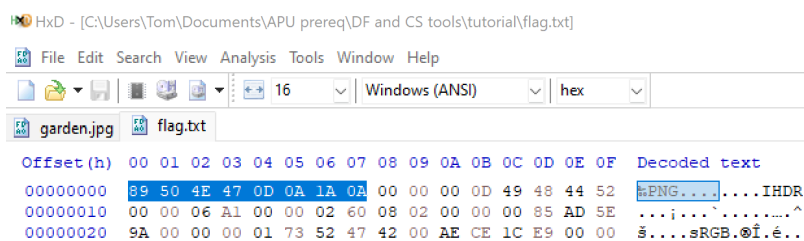


Figure 3: Wrong File format for “flag.txt”

Another file was provided, named “flag.txt”, and was opened with HxD. When consulting Table 1 it became apparent that “flag.txt” was not a Text file but in fact a PNG file from its file signature, as seen in Figure 3. The file was changed to a PNG file type by renaming it, which revealed the image in Figure 4, and revealing the Flag.

picoCTF{now\_you\_know\_about\_extensions}

Figure 4: Hidden flag within “flag.txt” after being changed to a PNG file

## 2.2 Wireshark

Wireshark is a packet analyser tool used commonly in Network Security and Digital Forensics cases. The program allows for live capture of network traffic, which can easily be saved to a PCAP file (packet capture, .pcap) for later analysis. Wireshark also provides a variety of filters to limit results to that of only one host, or specific protocols, allowing for more efficient investigation. A notable feature is the “Follow” option, that allows the user to view a conversation between two or more computers through a series of protocols (TCP, UDP, HTTP). In many Digital Forensics cases Investigators can find useful or incriminating evidence from network captures, making it a cornerstone of the investigation process.

A PCAP file was provided, named “capture1.pcap”, with a hidden flag somewhere inside it. To start, open up the file in Wireshark, the file contents can look intimidating at first it is really quite simple. Figure 5 shows the contents of “capture1.pcap”, with the tool bar at the top, followed by the display filter search bar, a column displaying each packets information, followed by the frame details of the selected packet, and lastly a Hexadecimal display of the packet contents.

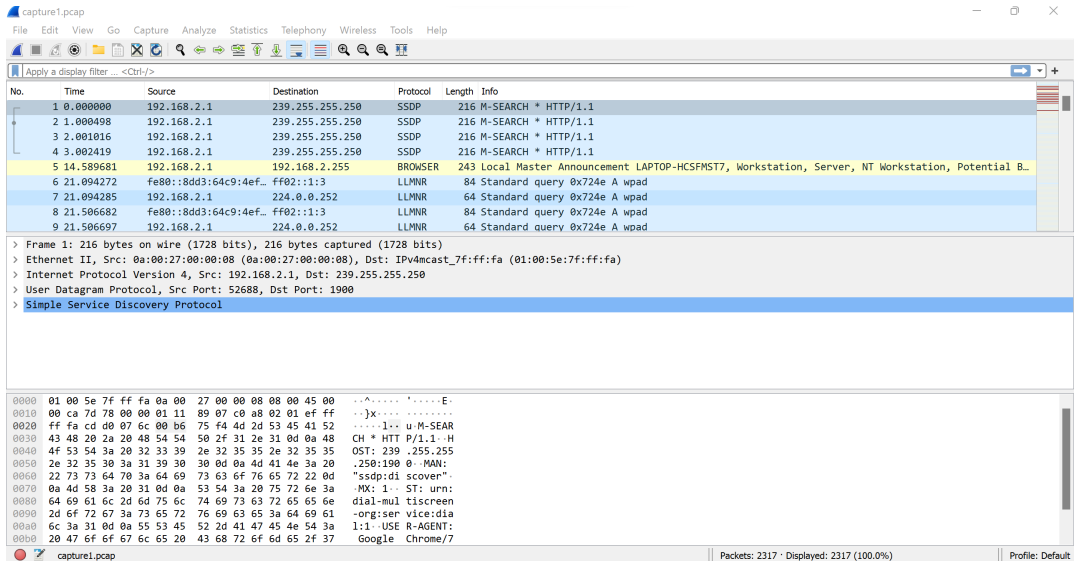


Figure 5: Wireshark showing network traffic data for capture1.pcap

A good place to look for a flag is in the conversations between two or more computers, by going to the “Analyze” option on the toolbar and hovering over “Follow” it is possible to see any mediums that were used to communicate. This reveals that the a User Data Protocol (UDP) conversation happened, after selecting that option a series of streams can be viewed. Scrolling through these streams reveals the flag at stream 6, as seen in Figure 6.

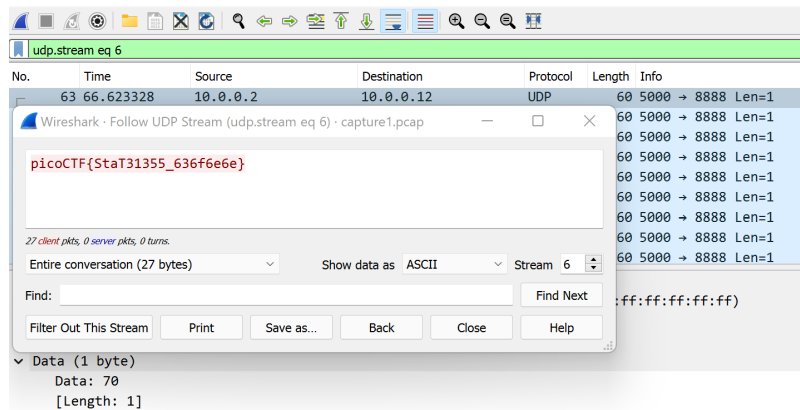


Figure 6: Wireshark displaying the found flag in the sixth UDP stream

## 2.3 Exif Tool

Metadata is a type of digital information that gives details about other data, such as for an image Metadata contain the resolution, file size, and date created. Metadata can seem inconsequential at

first, but offers a lot with data such a geo-location, which could link a suspect to the crime scene and become invaluable evidence for a digital forensics case. This scenario actually happened when Vice, the alternative news publication, released a photo onto their twitter boasting that they were with John McAfee, the creator of the McAfee Antivirus software. McAfee at the time was wanted for murder and had escaped to Guatemala illegally, Vice had not removed the Metadata of the Image so had unknowingly revealed his exact location (ODS, 2017). Figure 7 shows an example of a popular tool named “ExifTool” displaying the metadata of a PNG image and a PDF file. Using ExifTool in this way reveals useful information such as the original author of the File, and what software the file was created in.

ExifTool is easy to use and is on multiple operating systems, and can check the Metadata of Image, Audio, Video, and PDF files. In Windows, simply drag the file onto the ExifTool icon and the information window will pop up in a Windows Terminal. In Linux, simply use the command `exiftool file.extension` in the Linux Command Line.

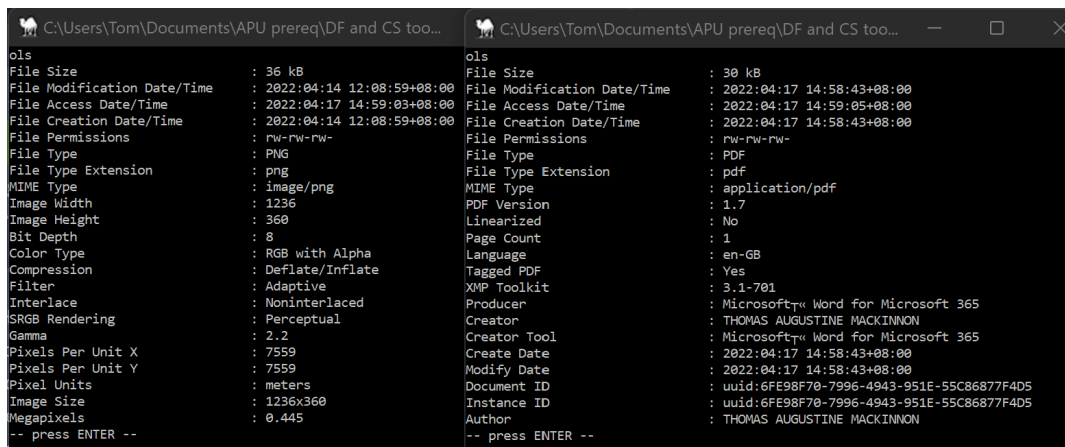


Figure 7: ExifTool working on a .png and .pdf File

ExifTool can also be used to edit or remove Metadata content, which is particularly useful for a malicious hacker wanting to cover their tracks. This feature can also be a good way to hide or transfer important information that is sensitive in nature. To demonstrate this ExifTool was run in the Linux Command line and the command seen in Figure 8 was used to add a Comment to the Metadata with login information. This Command can easily be edited to add other data such as a new author or location simply by changing `-Comment=` to something like `-Location="North Pole"`.

```
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
root@kali: ~/Desktop
root@kali:~/Desktop# exiftool -Comment="Username = Elliot Aldreson, Password = Qwerty"
resolution.png
  1 image files updated
root@kali:~/Desktop# exiftool resolution.png
ExifTool Version Number      : 12.41
File Name                    : resolution.png
Directory                    : .
File Size                    : 3.2 MiB
File Modification Date/Time   : 2022:04:16 04:09:59-04:00
File Access Date/Time        : 2022:04:16 04:10:02-04:00
File Inode Change Date/Time   : 2022:04:16 04:09:59-04:00
File Permissions              : -rw-----
File Type                    : PNG
File Type Extension          : png
MIME Type                    : image/png
Image Width                  : 1920
Image Height                 : 1280
Bit Depth                    : 8
Color Type                   : RGB with Alpha
Compression                  : Deflate/Inflate
Filter                      : Adaptive
Interlace                   : Noninterlaced
sRGB Rendering               : Perceptual
Comment                     : Username = Elliot Aldreson, Password = Qwerty
Image Size                   : 1920x1280
Megapixels                   : 2.5
root@kali:~/Desktop#
```

Figure 8: ExifTool used to add a comment to an Image file

## 2.4 Capture the flag Challenge

To further explore and develop skill in Digital Forensics and Cyber Security Tools a challenge was set to create a mini Capture the Flag (CTF) for a classmate. After creation and giving the challenge out the investigator would receive a classmate's challenge to try and solve.

### 2.4.1 Creation of CTF challenge



Figure 9: Image created with Pixlr named “resolution.png” with hints for the challenge

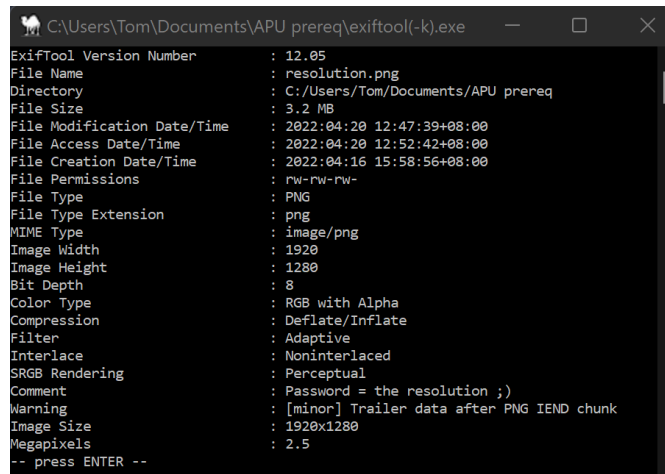
To start the challenge an image was created in Pixlr, an online photo editing tool, which can be seen in Figure 9. The image was deliberately edited to have a Stegosaurus covering text, hinting that Steganography might be involved later in the challenge, and that the word “resolution” might

be important. The image was created with a large resolution and high quality option selected so it would be big enough to hide a file in later on. The image was opened with the HxD hex editing tool used earlier, and scrolled to the bottom of its contents to add a piece of text. The text, which can be seen in Figure 10, as is meant to serve as a red herring from the true flag.

```
00331C00 AE 2A A5 9F 57 00 E2 7F 00 00 00 FF FF 03 00 96 0*YTW.á....ÿÿ..-
00331C10 74 6B AB D2 A9 19 B3 00 00 00 00 49 45 4E 44 AE tke00.'....IEND0
00331C20 42 60 82 59 6F 75 20 46 6F 75 6E 64 20 74 68 65 B',You Found the
00331C30 20 46 6C 61 67 2C 20 47 6F 6F 64 20 6A 6F 62 21 Flag, Good job!
00331C40 20 57 68 61 74 27 73 20 74 68 65 20 70 6F 69 6E What's the poin
00331C50 74 20 6F 66 20 74 68 65 20 73 74 65 67 6F 73 61 t of the stegosa
00331C60 75 72 75 73 3F urus?
```

Figure 10: Fake flag added to “resolution.jpg” in HxD

If the investigator is curious enough they will find that the metadata for the image has been edited, now including a hint to a password as seen in Figure 11. The resolution, or image size as ExifTool puts it, is “1920x1280”, so would be the hidden password. This was achieved using ExifTool in Linux Command line and using the command `exiftool -Comment="Password = the resolution ;)" resolution.png`.



```
C:\Users\Tom\Documents\APU prereq\exiftool(-k).exe
ExifTool Version Number      : 12.05
File Name                    : resolution.png
Directory                   : C:\Users\Tom\Documents\APU prereq
File Size                    : 3.2 MB
File Modification Date/Time  : 2022:04:20 12:47:39+08:00
File Access Date/Time       : 2022:04:20 12:52:42+08:00
File Creation Date/Time     : 2022:04:16 15:58:56+08:00
File Permissions             : rw-rw-rw-
File Type                    : PNG
File Type Extension         : png
MIME Type                    : image/png
Image Width                  : 1920
Image Height                 : 1280
Bit Depth                    : 8
Color Type                   : RGB with Alpha
Compression                  : Deflate/Inflate
Filter                       : Adaptive
Interlace                    : Noninterlaced
SRGB Rendering               : Perceptual
Comment                      : Password = the resolution ;)
Warning                      : [minor] Trailer data after PNG IEND chunk
Image Size                   : 1920x1280
Megapixels                   : 2.5
-- press ENTER --
```

Figure 11: Exiftool revealing the hidden hint for a password

Steganography was used to hide the final true flag, seen Figure 13, which is a simple ASCII flag in a text document. OpenPuff, a free Steganography decoder/encoder, was used to hide the text file within “resolution.png”. From the start menu the “Hide” option was selected, and the option to have multiple passwords was disabled (tick boxes named “Enable (B)” and “(c)”), as to not make it too hard. The password was set as “1920x1280”, the image resolution, and a target file was set as “flag.txt” in the second option tile. The Carrier was set as “resolution.txt” in third option tile, and the bit selection option was set to “PNG(Image)” and then to the medium option. The “Hide Data!” option was selected and the CTF was finished, the full layout and selected options for OpenPuff can be seen in Figure 12.

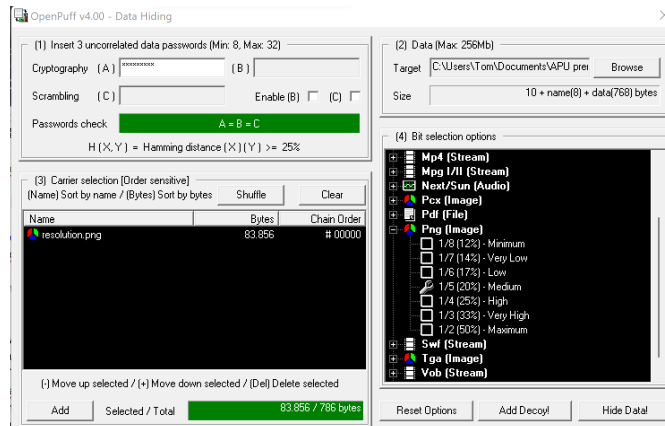


Figure 12: OpenPuff options for “resolution.png”

To test this works the “Unhide” option was selected in OpenPuff, and the password was entered with the right file. This produced the “flag.txt” file into whatever the chosen directory was proving it could be found.

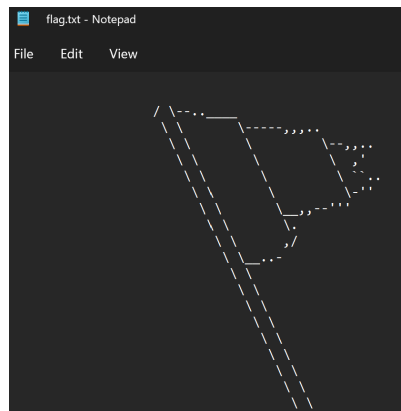


Figure 13: Real flag, being an ASCII text file, hidden inside “resolution.jpg”



## 2.4.2 Solution of Classmate's CTF challenge



Figure 14: Image for “Hidden.png” for the CTF challenge

A Capture the Flag challenge was assigned by a fellow student, being Soh Yoke Cheng (TP047206). An image named “Hidden.png” was provided, as seen in Figure 14 to investigate. The image was opened up in HxD to check the hexdata, which revealed that the file signature was for a JPG and not a PNG, so the extension was changed accordingly. Further search was conducted for hidden text, nothing was obviously hidden, until a string search for “flag” revealed the contents of Figure 15. The flag, being “SnVzdEZpbmRQVz1CYXNlNjQ”, seemed to be encrypted, so CyberChef (GCHQ, N.D) was used to decrypt it. CyberChef spotted that it was encoded in Base64, so after decrypting it the flag was “JustFindPW=Base64”. This seemed like a fake flag, hinting at a Password hidden somewhere.

Offset(h)	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E	0F	Decoded text
00000AD0	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
00000AE0	20	20	20	20	20	20	0A	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	.
00000AF0	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
00000B00	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
00000B10	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
00000B20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
00000B30	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
00000B40	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	0A	3C	3F	78	70	.
00000B50	61	63	6B	65	74	20	65	6E	64	3D	27	77	27	3F	3E	FF	ack et end='w'?>y
00000B60	FE	00	2A	48	65	72	65	20	69	73	20	74	68	65	20	6C	p."Here is the
00000B70	6C	61	67	3D	53	6E	56	7A	64	45	5A	70	62	6D	52	51	lag=SnVzdEZpbmRQ
00000B80	56	7A	31	43	59	58	4E	6C	4E	6A	51	FF	DB	00	43	00	Vz1CYXNlNjQyU.C.
00000B90	06	04	05	06	05	04	06	06	05	06	07	07	06	08	0A	10	.....
00000BA0	0A	0A	09	09	0A	14	0F	0F	0C	10	17	14	18	18	17	14	.....

Figure 15: HxD revealing an encoded flag in “Hidden.jpg”

Another string search was performed with “password”, which revealed the text seen in Figure 16, suggesting that “Hello World” is the password needed to find the flag.



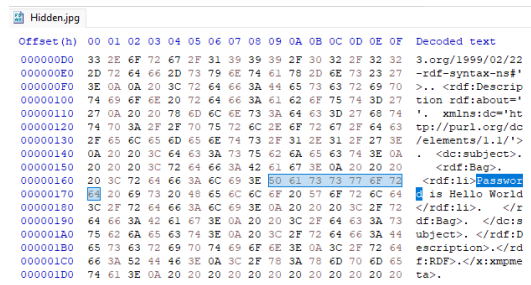


Figure 16: HxD revealing an password in “Hidden.jpg”

The Password was suspected to be used in a Steganography tool to reveal a hidden text file within the image. OpenPuff was opened and the “Unhide” option was selected. The Password found in the hexdata was entered (Disabling the option for multiple passwords) and “Hidden.jpg” was attached as the carrier, as seen in Figure 17.

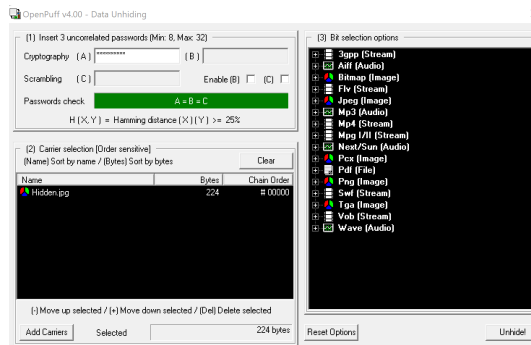


Figure 17: “Hidden.jpg” being added to OpenPuff to check for hidden file within

This completed the challenge and revealed the flag, as seen in Figure 18.

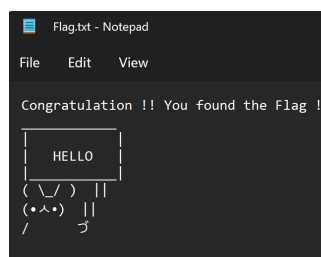


Figure 18: Final Flag found for “Hidden.jpg”

### 3 Portfolio 2: Imaging tools

Imaging is a core part of any Digital Forensics Investigation, without it evidence would be unusable in court. This is due to the important of evidence integrity, Investigators have to verify that they have made no changes to evidence to make valid for court. Imaging allows Investigators to create a copy of storage devices, such as hard discs or USBs, which can be thoroughly checked through whilst the original evidence is locked away safety. The use of Imaging provides a safe environment for investigating, so learning how to create an Image using tools is a very important step.

#### 3.1 FTK Imager

FTK Imager is an imaging tool that allows for creation and investigation of forensic images. The tool also provides the user with the ability to see deleted files left on storage devices, making it very useful to Investigators (CloudNine, N.D.). The tool was run using the Windows, which brings up an empty screen since there is no evidence yet. A good way to learn FTK Imager is through imaging a USB, which can be done quickly due to the low storage compared to a hard drive.

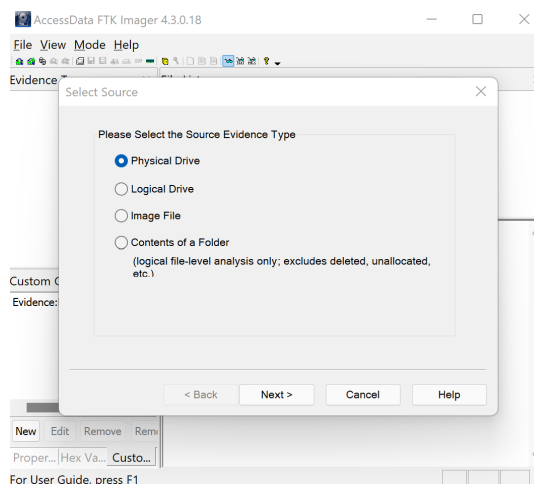


Figure 19: FTK Imager options for adding evidence

To do this select “File” option and then the “Create Disk Image”, which will bring up the option screen seen in Figure 19. As a USB is a Physical drive select the “Physical Drive” option, and then select your USB from the drop down menu, before hitting finish. This will bring up a screen for creating the image, select “Add” to chose the Image type, and select “Raw” as the other options are for specific Forensic software. A screen will appear were users can enter identifying information about the Image, followed by selecting the destination of the file, as seen in Figure 20. There are options to fragment the Image or compress it for less storage space, but that is not necessary in this demonstration, so set Fragmentation to 0.

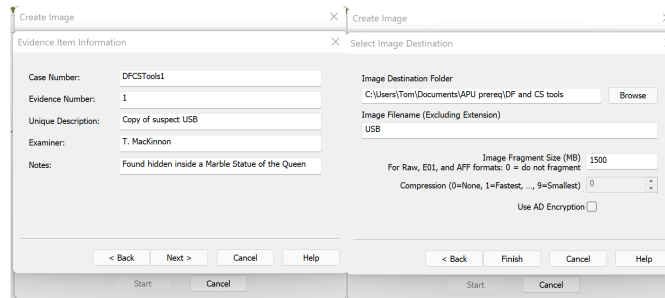


Figure 20: Options and Information screens for Creation of an Image in FTK Imager

Click “Finish” and then click “Start”, which will result in a loading screen as FTK Imager makes the image. This may take a while, and FTK will verify the Image after completion, showing a Summary page. This Image can then be opened with FTK Imager to check if it worked, by using the “Add Evidence Item” and choosing the newly created image. This should result in something similar to Figure 21, and allow the Investigator free reign over the contents of the image.

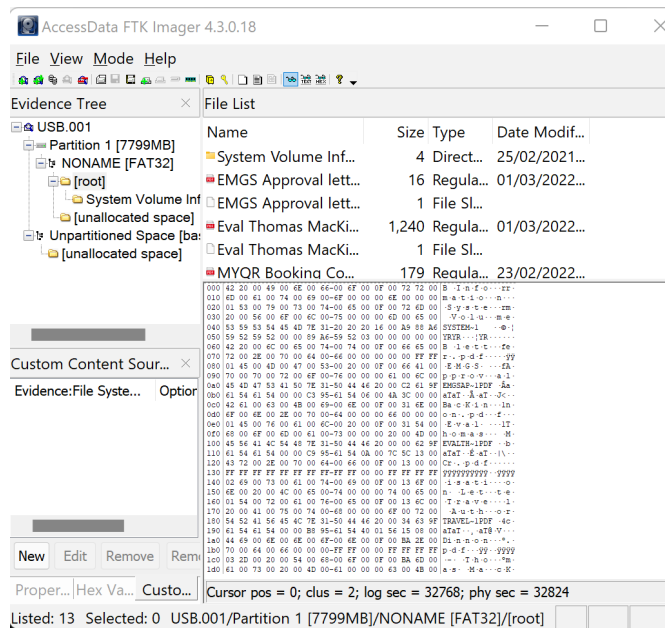


Figure 21: Successfully Investigating contents found on the Image of a USB, made with FTK Imager

### 3.2 Imaging in Linux

It is also worthwhile to learn how to Image storage devices in Linux, as it is the Operating System of choice for Digital Forensics Investigators and Cyber Security Specialists. There are many options for Imaging in Linux, DD tools is an Open source option that comes pre-installed on Kali Linux and is run in Command Line, so was selected for this demonstration (Parasram, 2020).

```
kali@kali:~$ lsblk
NAME        MAJ:MIN RM  SIZE RO TYPE MOUNTPOINT
sda          8:0    0   80G  0 disk
├─sda1       8:1    0   79G  0 part /
├─sda2       8:2    0    1K  0 part
├─sda5       8:5    0   975M  0 part [SWAP]
sdb          8:16   1    7.6G  0 disk
├─sdb1       8:17   1    7.6G  0 part /media/kali/5897-214C
sr0         11:0    1  1024M  0 rom

kali@kali:~$ sudo dd if=/dev/sdb1 of=/home/kali/Desktop/USB.dd
15974344+0 records in
15974344+0 records out
8178864128 bytes (8.2 GB, 7.6 GiB) copied, 2956.27 s, 2.8 MB/s
kali@kali:~$
```

Figure 22: Successfully created an Image of a USB using DD in Kali Linux

To begin, insert or attach a USB to the Kali Linux operating system. Linux is less conventional when it comes to USB location, so to find out where it really is use the `lsblk` command, which will show devices connected to the PC. In Figure 22 the command reveals that the USB will be found at `/dev/sdb1` and is mounted to `/media/kali`. To use the `dd` command setting the “if flag” (Input file) as the USB location, and the “of flag” (Output Flag) as the destination of the image. In this example the command was `sudo dd if=/dev/sdb1 of=/home/kali/Desktop/USB.dd`, and produced the file after some time. This Image can be verified in FTK Imager, by adding it as evidence and browsing the contents, as seen in Figure 23.

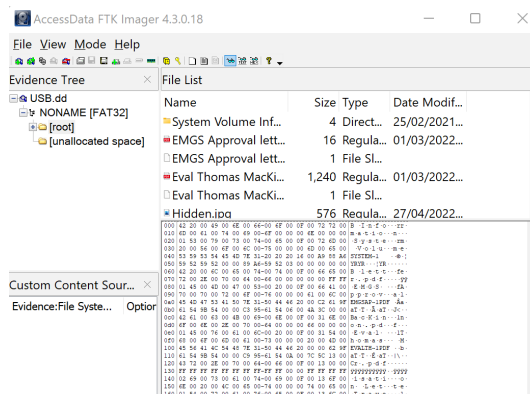


Figure 23: FTK investigating the Image created with DD tools

### 3.3 Summary

In summary, both tools used were able to perform the task of Imaging a USB in a forensically sound way. However, DD tools was far easier to use, as one command can create the Image, whilst FTK Imager required a lot of menus to get the task completed. DD tools was very fast compared to FTK Imager, taking around forty minutes to make an Image, whilst FTK took two and a half hours. FTK Imager is a lot easier for users with less technical skill, and didn't need the aid of online tutorials to use. However, in a real Digital Forensics Case DD tools is the obvious choice, only aided by Linux being the Industry standard operating system for Information Security.

## 4 Investigation Tools

An Investigation began after receiving a Memory Card from a Security Guard of a local Jewellery business. The guard had caught an employee trying to sneak out of the building with a Compact Memory Card concealed in a shoe. The guard suspects the employee was smuggling out building schematics and photos of products, which would be a great aid to any thieves planning to rob the business. The guard wishes to have evidence of this crime, and so has handed over the drive to be investigated.

### 4.1 Imaging and Hashing

The first step of any investigation is to Image of the storage devices, luckily this step has already been performed. Still, a copy of the original Image will be used as to verify that no changes has been made. An MD5 hash will be take of the original file, which will be used to verify that during the Investigation no changes to the drive was made. To do this, simply use the command `md5sum filename.extension` as seen in Figure 24, revealing the hash signature of the original evidence.

```
root@kali:~/Desktop# md5sum DraftComplete.dd
f961c4000e4aa71ee558e20d39d36b19 DraftComplete.dd
root@kali:~/Desktop#
```

Figure 24: Checking the hash signature of DraftComplete.dd

### 4.2 Windows Investigation

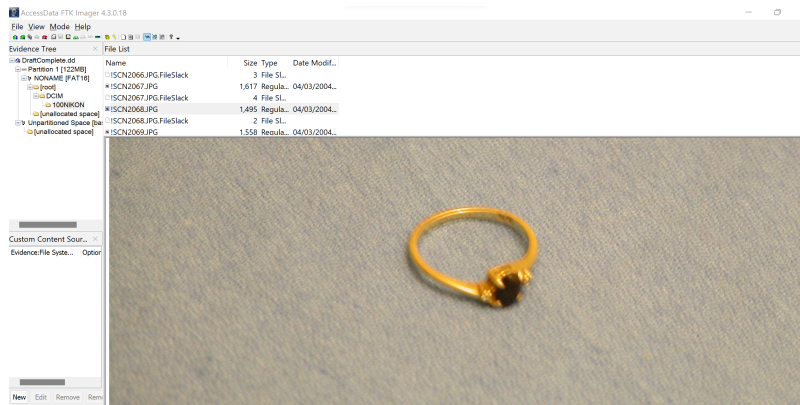


Figure 25: FTK Imager investigating “DraftComplete.dd”, revealing pictures of unreleased products

For the Windows portion of this Investigation FTK Imager will be used again to investigate the the Draft Complete Image. The Image was loaded into FTK by using the “Add Evidence Item” and then selecting “Image File” and choosing the “DraftComplete.dd” from the file manager. Searching through the content reveals a folder named “100NIKON”, which has the name of a popular brand

of camera. Looking into the folder reveals photos of unreleased Draft Complete Products. Figure 25 shows an image retrieved of a ring, there are several other images of products, including one saved as TIFF file which can't be viewed in FTK until it is extracted. All evidence uncovered can be found in the Appendix.

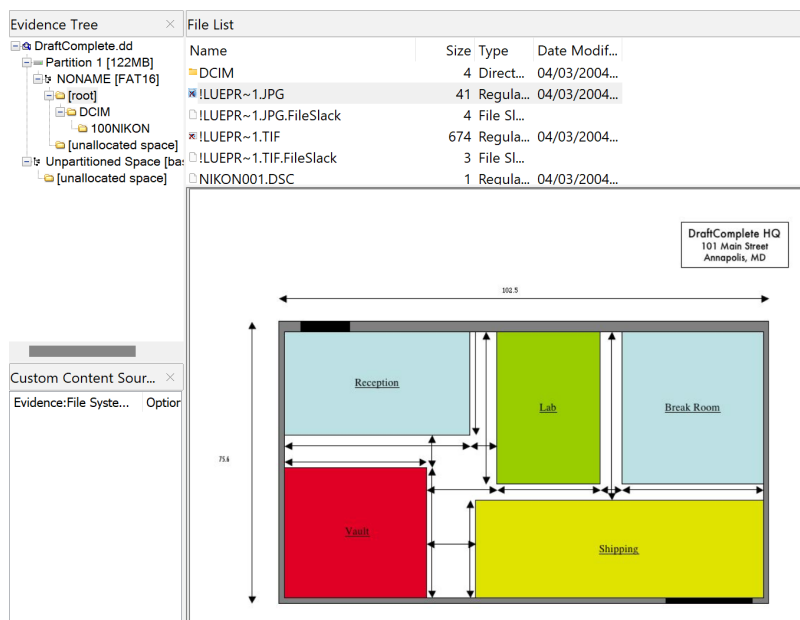


Figure 26: FTK Imager investigating “DraftComplete.dd”, revealing building blueprints of Draft Complete’s HQ

Another notable file found on the drive can be seen in Figure 26, being the building blueprints for Draft Complete’s HQ. This is particularly worrying, as these files would be highly sought after by any criminal planning to rob the building. This concluded the Windows investigation, the hash signatures were checked and were the same, meaning all evidence retrieved was not accidentally tampered with by the investigator.

### 4.3 Linux Investigation

```
kali@kali:~$ sudo losetup --partscan --find --show /home/kali/Desktop/DraftComplete.dd
/dev/loop1
kali@kali:~$ sudo mount /dev/loop0p1 /mnt
```

Figure 27: Mounting Command to mount “DraftComplete.dd” to Kali Linux

To begin the Linux investigation the drive was mounted to the Operating System so it could be browsed through. At first the `losetup` command with the “find” flag was used to find and set up “DraftComplete.dd” as a loop device. Once a loop devices is associated with the drive it can be mounted with the `mount` command, as seen in Figure 27.

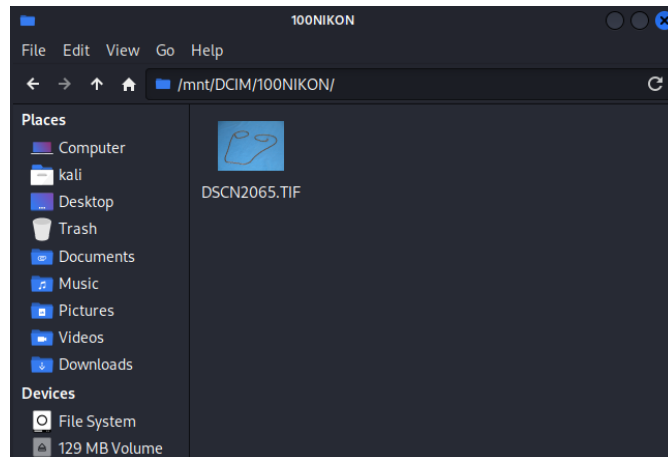


Figure 28: Successfully mounted “DraftComplete.dd”

To verify mounting has worked browse to the file location of the drive, in this being in the `mnt` folder of the root file system. Inside reveals little of the known content for “DraftComplete.dd” from FTK Imager, with only one product image present. This confirms that the suspect employee had deleted files off the usb.

To recover the file Foremost was used with the Yeahhub recovery option, which can recover files using a process known as file carving. The full command can be seen in Figure 29, the tool works quickly and output to `/home/kali/yeahhub-recovery`, however, the files permissions do not allow viewing of contents. To fix this the output file permissions were changed using ChMod using the command `sudo chmod 777 /home/kali/yeahhub-recovery`. This will give full access to the contents.

```
kali@kali:~$ sudo foremost -i /home/kali/Desktop/DraftComplete.dd -o yeahhub-recovery -v
Foremost version 1.5.7 by Jesse Kornblum, Kris Kendall, and Nick Mikus
Audit File

Foremost started at Thu Apr 28 09:25:49 2022
Invocation: foremost -i /home/kali/Desktop/DraftComplete.dd -o yeahhub-recovery -v
Output directory: /home/kali/yeahhub-recovery
Configuration file: /etc/foremost.conf
Processing: /home/kali/Desktop/DraftComplete.dd

File: /home/kali/Desktop/DraftComplete.dd
Start: Thu Apr 28 09:25:49 2022
Length: 123 MB (128974848 bytes)



| Num | Name (bs=512) | Size  | File Offset | Comment |
|-----|---------------|-------|-------------|---------|
| 0:  | 00029369.jpg  | 1 MB  | 15036928    |         |
| 1:  | 00032777.jpg  | 1 MB  | 16781824    |         |
| 2:  | 00036017.jpg  | 1 MB  | 18440704    |         |
| 3:  | 00039009.jpg  | 1 MB  | 19972608    |         |
| 4:  | 00042129.jpg  | 40 KB | 21570048    |         |


**|
Finish: Thu Apr 28 09:25:51 2022

5 FILES EXTRACTED

jpg:= 5

Foremost finished at Thu Apr 28 09:25:51 2022
kali@kali:~$
```

Figure 29: Foremost command with Yeahhub recovery option

All files that were deleted are now recovered as seen in Figure 30, thus concluding this investigation. The hash signatures were checked revealing no changes had been made to DD file, meaning the integrity of the evidence had been maintained throughout this investigation.

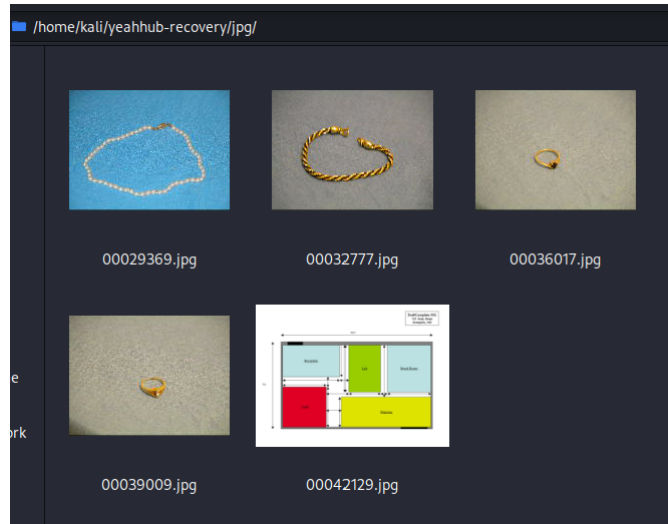


Figure 30: Foremost recovering deleted files from “DraftComplete.dd”

#### 4.4 Summary

From this investigation it is clear that the suspect employee had in their possession a Compact Flash memory card that contained confident files, such as unreleased product pictures and HQ building blueprints. The contents had been deleted in an attempt to hide evidence of misconduct, but could easily be recovered using file carving tools. This suggests that the suspect planned to recover files after smuggling them out of the building, proving the suspicions of the Security Guard.



## 5 Conclusion

In Conclusion, this report successfully covers many tools and techniques used by professionals of Cyber Security and Digital Forensics. Many aspects of Information Security was covered, from hexediting to steganography, providing an informative rundown of tools. The use of a Case Study provides a practical use for tools covered and proves the true usefulness they can provide in the pursuit of convicting criminals and providing a safer cyberspace for us all.

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## 7 Appendix

### 7.1 Draft Complete

