

Getting Started with DFIR

Digital Forensics & Incident Response

• • •

Kumar **Ashwin**

About Me

Kumar **Ashwin** (Security Consultant @ Payatu)

Connect with me on [0xCardinal](#) on all socials.

Agenda

- What is Digital Forensics?
- Different Data Sources (Where to find evidence?)
- Chain of Custody
- Need For Digital Forensics
- Browser Forensics
- Challenges & Concerns
- What Next?

What is Digital Forensics?



Digital forensic science is a branch of forensic science that focuses on the recovery and investigation of material found in digital devices related to cybercrime.

Different Data Sources

- Logs
- Metadata
- Social Media Activity
- Prefetch Files
- LNK Files
- RAM
- Etc.

any device that can store/retrieve data from...

Steps of Digital Forensics

Identification

Preservation

Analysis

**Documentation &
Presentation**

~~Steps of Digital Forensics~~

Chain of Custody

Identification

Preservation

Analysis

**Documentation &
Presentation**

Need for Digital Forensics

- Determining the cause and potential intent of a cyberattack.
- Protecting digital evidence from the attack before it becomes obsolete.
- Increasing security hygiene, tracing hacker paths, and locating hacker tools.
- Looking for data access/extraction.
- Determining the duration of unauthorized network access.
- Etc.

Segregation in Digital Forensics

Disk Forensics

Network Forensics

Wireless Forensics

Database Forensics

Malware Forensics

Email Forensics

Memory Forensics

Browser Forensics

Mobile Forensics

...

Browser Forensics

- Browsers are considered a goldmine because of the amount of information they contain.

Browser Artifacts

- Artifacts are the files stored in the operating system in some specific directories.
- Each browser stores its files in a different place than other browsers and they all have different names
- Navigation History, Autocomplete Data, Cache, Logins, Browser Sessions, Downloads, etc.

Browser Artifacts

- Each Browser has different paths to store data.

- Mozilla Firefox

```
C:\Users\XXX\AppData\Roaming\Mozilla\Firefox\Profiles\[profileID].default-release\
```

```
~/.mozilla/firefox/
```

- Chrome

```
C:\Users\XXX\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User Data\Default
```

```
~/.config/google-chrome/
```

- The artifacts in these locations are different files – txt, json, database files, etc. which store all the information about the browser and all the activities performed on it.

Chain of Custody (Browsers Forensics)

- **Identification**

- Now we have identified the artifacts that we need to analyze.
- In our case, it's the data from the browser.

- **Preservation**

- We can use tools like FTK imager or something similar to get a copy of original data that is to be analyzed.
- This stage is very much crucial, as we need to perform tasks without much tampering the evidence.
- And if we perform the analysis in the evidence, we are tampering it, hence we need to preserve the state of the evidence.

Chain of Custody (Browsers Forensics)

- **Analysis**

- Now that we have the image (E01 extension[\[1\]](#)), we can use it to open it in different tools like Autopsy to analyze.
- This is the most creative part of the process, as here we figure out different activities performed, to support our case.

- **Document & Presentation**

- The most important aspect of the process is the documentation of the complete process and what all things you have done as an investigator.
- And presenting the relevant information that is easy to understand by a non-technical person is a skill must have to be in this field.

Challenges & Concerns

- Anti-forensics
- Evolving Technologies
- Increase in volume of evidence
- The single approach does not work anymore
- Legal Challenges
- Strong encryption techniques

What Next?

- Resources
 - [SANS DFIR Cheat Sheets](#)
 - [HackTricks Browser Artifacts Notes](#)
 - [Private Browser Forensics Research Paper](#)
- Labs
 - [CyberDefenders](#)
- Google Everything and Explore

QnA?

Introduction to DFIR | Payatu Webinar
Kumar **Ashwin** | Connect at [0xCardinal](#)

