

24 HOURS DIGITAL FORENSICS ANALYSIS

The power of Rapid Response,
Forensic Analytics & Visualization

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Our story: 24 HRs Digital Forensic Analysis

- Based on industry research conducted during the years, the need for a forensic tool that will be revealing any indicators of misconduct (such as Data Leakage, IP theft etc.) has been acknowledged.
- Consequently, computer forensics insights, support and guidance has been provided to Panagiotis Krommydakis, who primarily developed the proposed tool as part of his Master's Thesis (supervised by Dr. Eliana Stavrou from UCLan University Cyprus and myself) that we call “24 HOURS DIGITAL FORENSICS ANALYSIS TOOL” (available also on GitHub: <https://github.com/krommydakis/24HoursForensicsAnalysisTool>)

Panagiotis Krommydakis

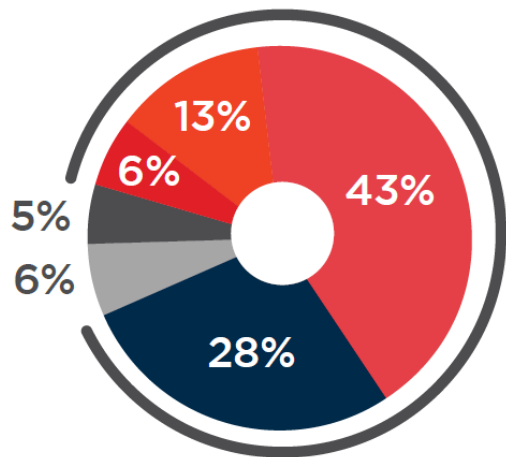


Panagiotis Krommydakis works as a freelance Principal Information Security Consultant / Senior Penetration Tester for the last 5 years. More specifically, he is employed as an external consultant by private sector companies mainly European and Governmental organizations on the implementation of information security solutions under the auspices of IT management programs. He also performs penetration testing as well as vulnerability assessments against web applications, smartphones (mobile apps) and IT infrastructure (network infrastructure). Finally, he deals with providing services related to the establishment and proper operation of Secure SDLC to companies and organizations with software development departments. He has more than 20 years of experience as an IT professional and has worked on international projects in more than 20 countries with on-site presence, and in more than 40 countries remotely. He has previously worked for 15 years in distinguished Software Development Houses (Softcom-Int, SIEMENS SIS and SIEMENS DI&P).

He holds an MSc. in Cybersecurity from the UCLAN University in Cyprus and a BSc. In Information Technology from the Hellenic American University. He has also studied Physics at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

He holds the following active professional certifications: CISSP, CISM, CISA, CRISC, CSSLP, C | EH, COBIT 5 (F), IT / IL v3 (F), ISO / IEC 27001 Lead Auditor / Auditor, SOTP.

Insider threat

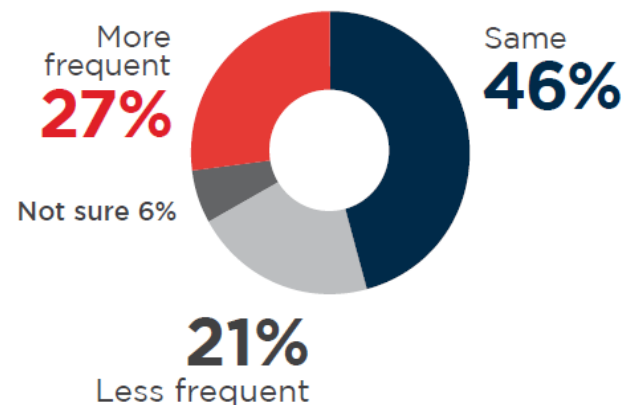


90%
feel vulnerable
to insider threats

- Extremely vulnerable
- Very vulnerable
- Moderately vulnerable
- Slightly vulnerable
- Not at all vulnerable
- Cannot disclose/not sure

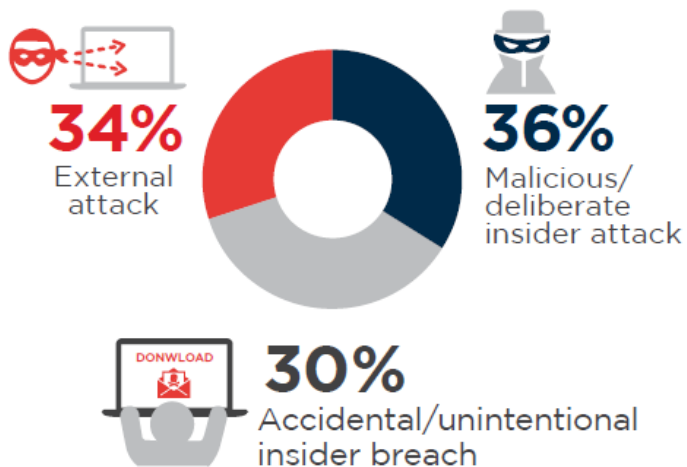
Cybersecurity Insiders, 2018

▶ Have insider attacks against your organization become more or less frequent over the last 12 months?



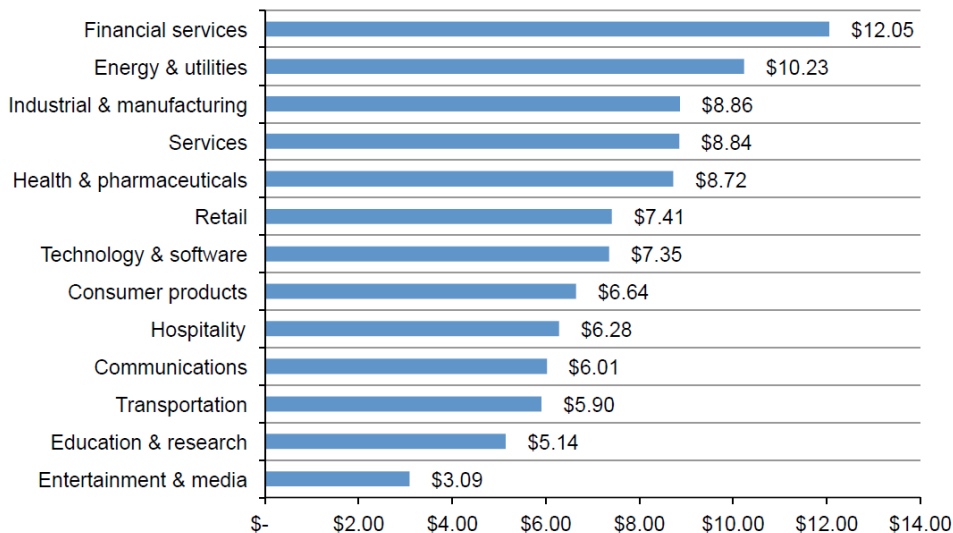
Insider threat (cont'd)

What threat do you consider most
LIKELY to happen to your organisation?



Internal incident cost per sector

All types of insider incidents increase year by year (Ponemon Institute, 2018)



Leaving employees & data leakage



In today's dynamic business environment and the emerging digital age, we are observers of crises, cyber-attacks, employee misconduct and various types of financial crimes.



Usually when an employee is about to leave his/her company there is a risk to the organization of having data leakage of personal and other intellectual property information. In addition, there may be employee productivity issues or other examples of misconduct.

Remediation and threat mitigation



Insider threat mitigation efforts rely usually on the following five (5) categories of tools or capabilities:

1. User Activity Monitoring (UAM)
2. Data Loss or Leakage Prevention (DLP)
3. Security Information and Event Management (SIEM)
4. Analytics, and
5. Digital Forensics

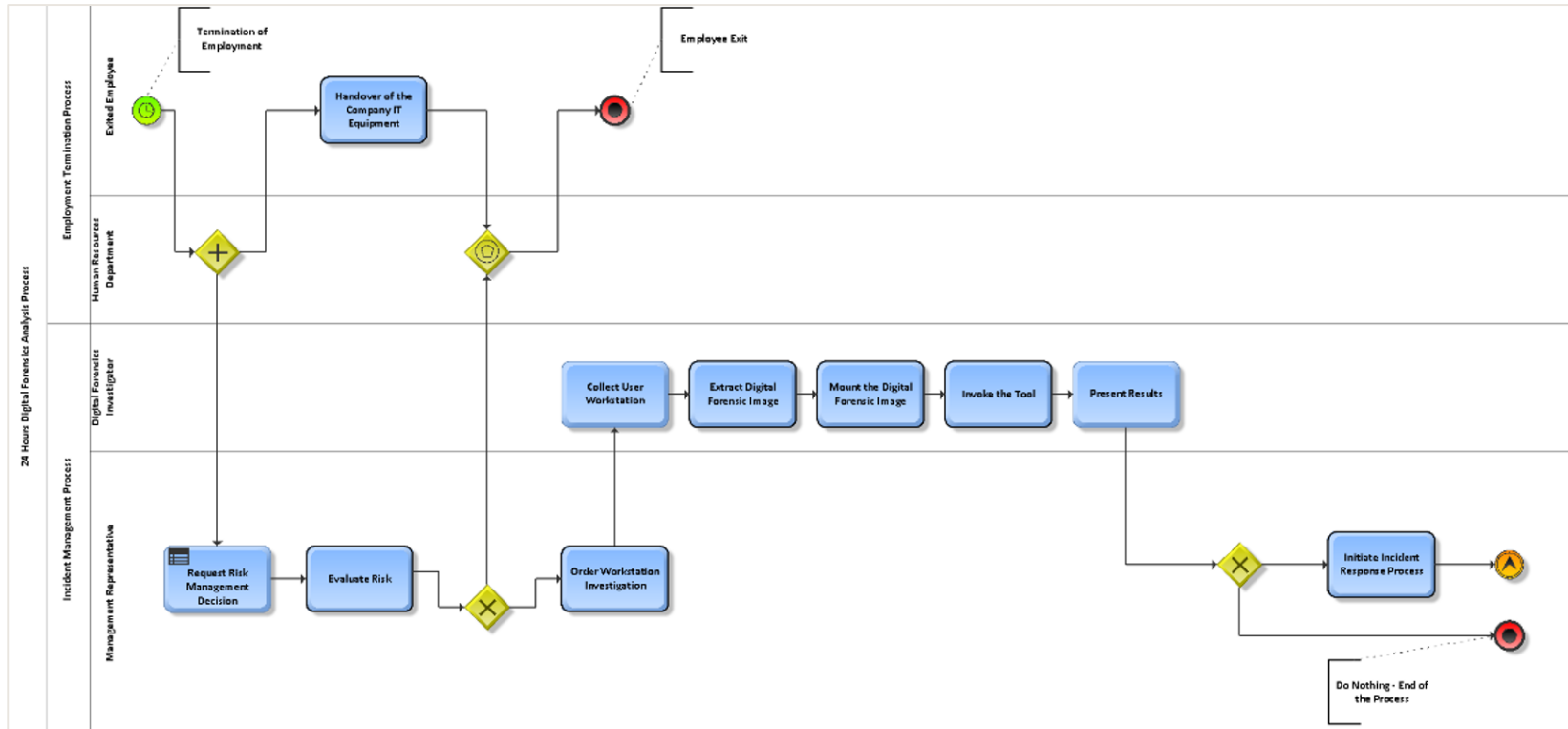
Rule: Digital Forensics Lab based investigation

- Do not make other assumptions / don't be confused with:
 - Cyber Incident response
 - Forensic triage
 - Indicators of Compromise (IOC)
 - Network Forensics
 - Investigating server logs / proxy / firewall / DLP
 - Etc.
- Do not take for granted anything (technological advancements)

Why Rapid Response - Project Scope

- Management in Crisis and Panic Attack alert!
- During an investigation there are many expectations from the management towards Digital Forensics Investigators so as to provide answers to questions like **who? when? how? where? what?**
- Being able to provide key answers within the first 24 hours of an investigation can assist the organization or even the investigation team to go to different directions or perform a more in-depth investigation
- What about GDPR and reporting “without undue delay” / 72hrs DPA notification?

Proposed methodology & Building a hypothesis



Methodology: Applicable Threat Scenarios

Identify potential risks and build hypothesis for potential malicious scenarios or minimal productivity

- Classified (or sensitive) Data Exfiltration
- Classified (or sensitive) Data Alteration
- Classified (or sensitive) Data Destruction
- Install an Advanced Persistent Threat (APT)
- Plant a Logic Bomb
- Use of stolen credentials
- Limited Productivity
- Use of Anti-forensics tools or Techniques

Building hypothesis - Malicious Activities

1. Workstation access outside business hours
2. Workstation access outside working days
3. Copy data into a USB key
4. Copy data to a non-company cloud share
5. Send data to a non-business mail account
6. Copy data through a remote connection (i.e. Team Viewer)
7. Install and activate unauthorised bind shell to the workstation
8. Install and activate unauthorised reverse shell to the workstation
9. Install unauthorised products such as for remote connection (i.e. team viewer) to the workstation
10. Delete company information assets (i.e. source code)
11. Alter the integrity of company information assets
12. Install malware on the workstation
13. Install virtualization software on the workstation
14. Turn off the runtime protections of the workstation
15. Deletion of workstation log files
16. Access network shares with different account
17. Attempts to access network shares on different workstations
18. Access “black-listed” internet sites
19. Use of browser incognito mode
20. Taking screenshot
21. Print document
22. Modify Task Scheduler (or Create a new task i.e. for the logic bomb)
23. Access gray (limited productivity attack) listed internet sites
24. Access Proxy and Filter Avoidance internet sites (anti forensics)
25. Screensaver duration/occurrences during business hours

Windows 10 Artifacts

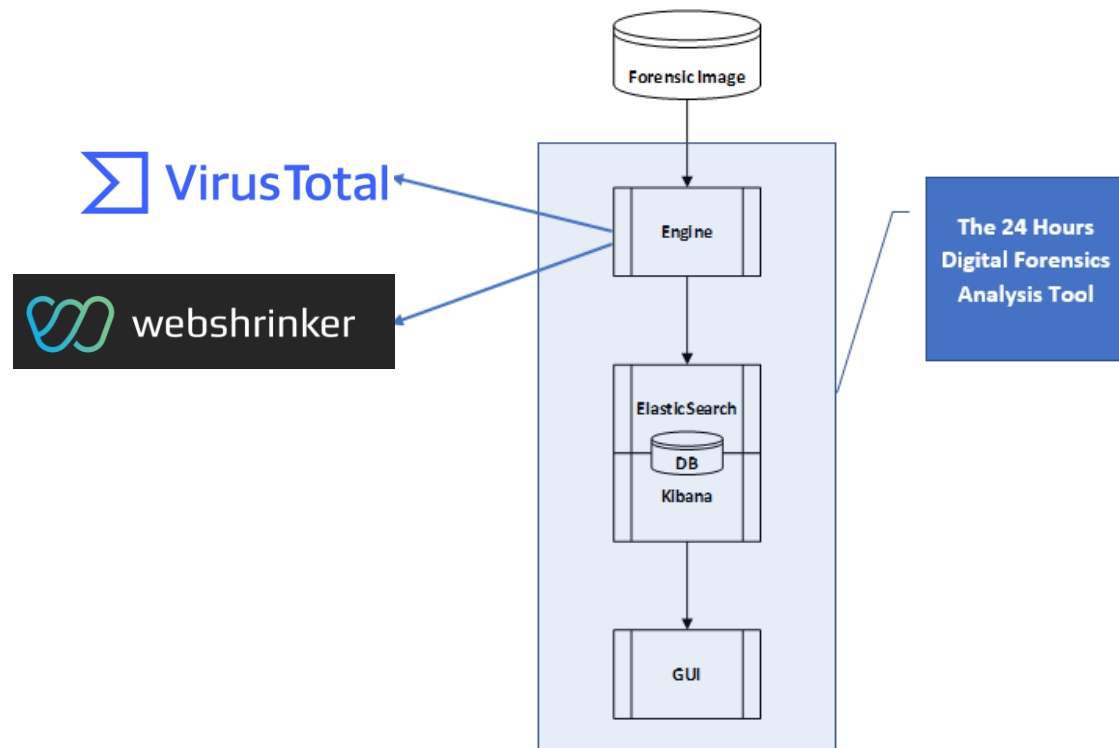
Just a few:

Evidence of	Artifact	Artifact Description	Artifact Location
File Download	Open or Save MRU	Key to trace files that have been opened or saved within a Windows shell dialog box (applicable to web browsers and common applications). The "*" subkey is used for files of any extension	NTUSER.DAT\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\ComDlg32\OpenSavePIDMRU
	Email Attachments	MS Outlook data files, of the latest application version, are stored in OST and PST format. Email attachments are encoded with MIME (Base64) format.	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Outlook
	Skype History	Skype history is activated by default and keeps a log of a) chat sessions and b) files transferred	C:\%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Skype\<skype-name>
	Browser Artifacts	Information is recorded per local account along with the frequency each site has been visited. Browser history will list the links for the files that were opened from the visited web sites (via download to the local filesystem).	Internet Explorer • IE8-9: %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\IEDownloadHistory\index.dat • IE10-11: %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\WebCache\WebCacheV*.dat Firefox • v3-25: %userprofile%\AppData\Roaming\Mozilla\Firefox\Profiles\<random text>.default\downloads.sqlite • v26+: %userprofile%\AppData\Roaming\Mozilla\Firefox\Profiles\<random text>.default\places.sqlite Table:moz_annos Chrome: %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\UserData\Default\History

Windows 10 Artifacts (cont'd)

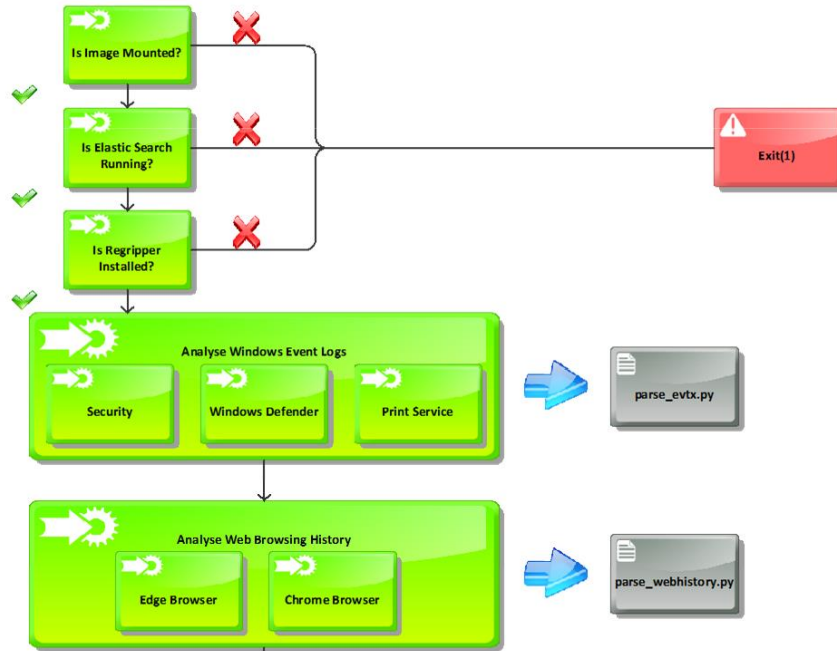
Evidence of	Artifact	Artifact Description	Artifact Location
Program Execution	UserAssist	GUI-based programs launched from the desktop are tracked by the Windows launcher as follows [ROT-13 encoding]: a) CEBFF5CD (Executable File) b) F4E57C4B (Shortcut)	NTUSER.DAT HIVE: NTUSER.DAT\Software\Microsoft\Windows\Currentversion\Explorer\UserAssist\ {GUID}\Count
	Windows 10 Timeline	Win10 keep track, in an SQLite db, traces regarding all the recently used applications and files in the form of a "timeline". (to access it one should hit the "WIN+TAB" keys combination)	C:\Users\<profile>\AppData\Local\ConnectedDevicesPlatform\L.<profile>\ActivitiesCache.db
	RecentApps	Launching of a GUI Program is tracked by the RecentApps key. Each GUID refers to a different application that has been recently executed. Following records are stored: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AppID = Name of Application LastAccessTime = Last execution time in UTC LaunchCount = Number of times executed 	NTUSER.DAT\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Search\RecentApps
	Shimcache	Windows Application Compatibility Database keeps track of any compatibility issues along with the executable file name, file size, last modified time. Useful to identify is specific malware has been executed on the system	SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\SessionManager\AppCompatCache
	Jump Lists	Used to provide fast and easy access, through the associated application (AppID), to recently accessed media files and performed tasks. Following tracks are stored: Creation Time, Last time of execution, Modification Time	C:\%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Recent\AutomaticDestinations
	Amcache.hve	ProgramDataUpdater uses this registry file to store data during a process creation.	C:\Windows\AppCompat\Programs\Amcache.hve

24hrs Digital Forensics Analysis Tool

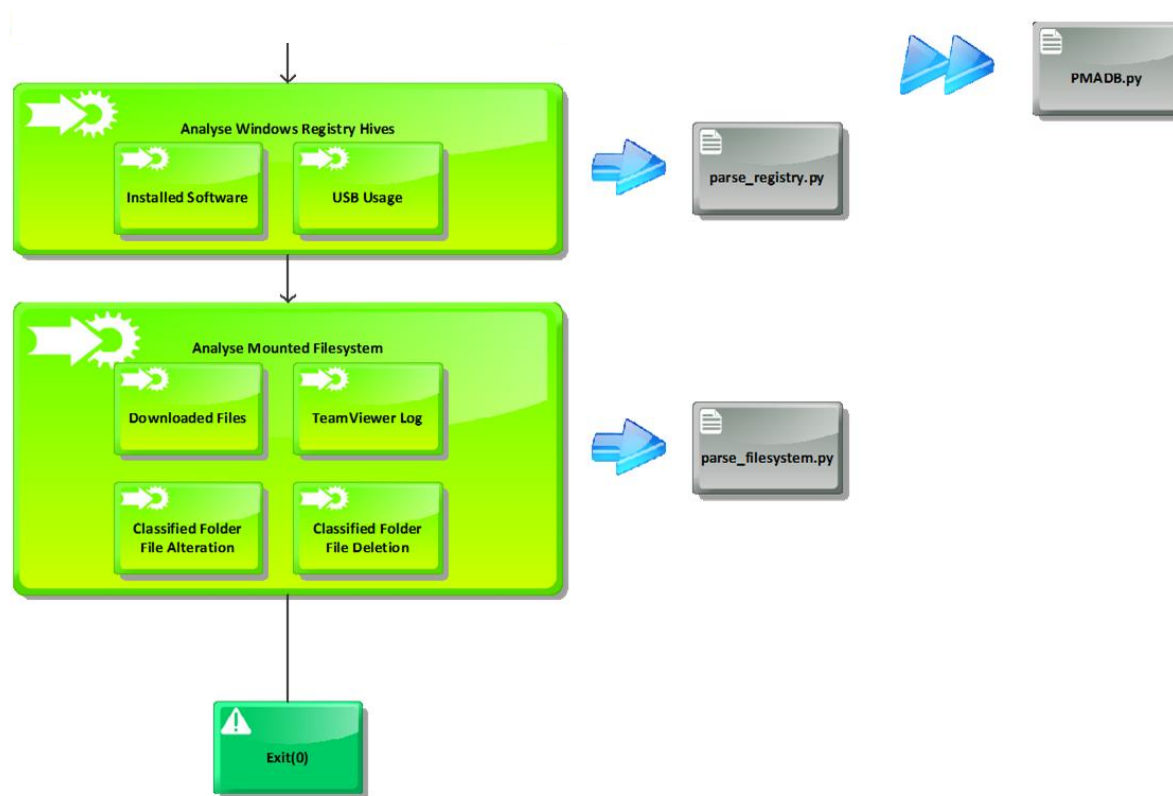


Engine

start.py (ENGINE)



Engine (cont'd)



Digital Forensicator & Investigation Steps

She/he is responsible for the overall configuration and administration of the tool. More particularly she/he is assigned with the following responsibilities:



Prepare the Digital Forensic Image from the workstation of the exited employee



Mount the aforementioned image on the tool's Virtual Machine for further analysis



Configure the parameters of the tool's engine

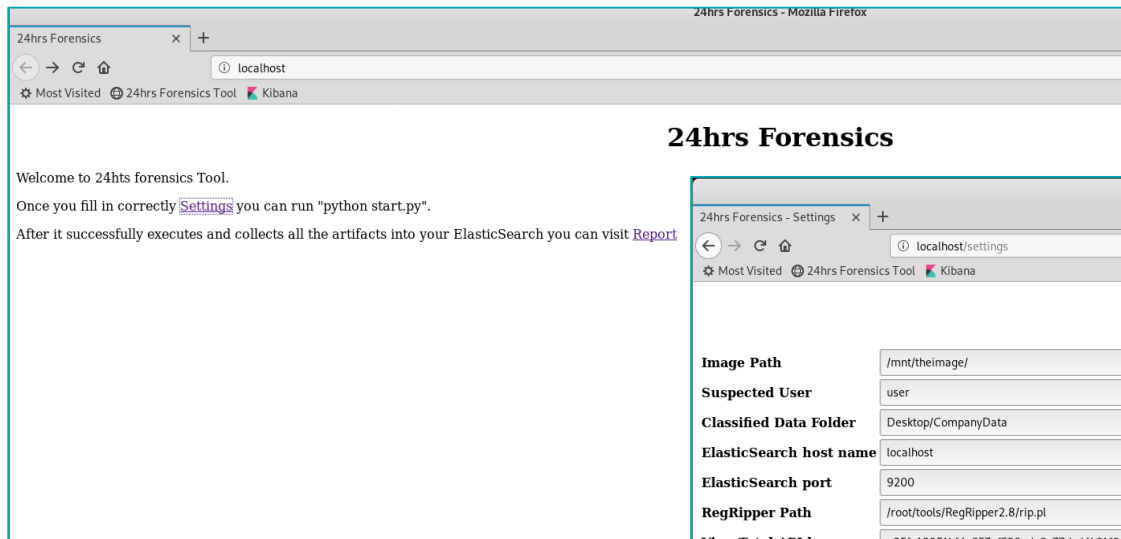


Trigger the analysis by the tool

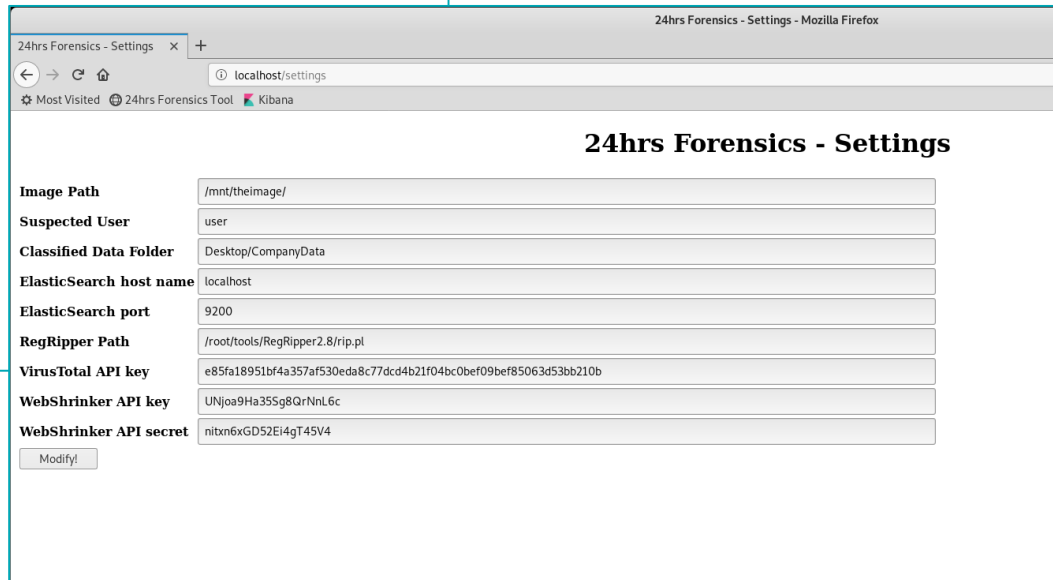


Present the analysis results to the upper management, via the graphical interface, and support them to interpret the results

24hr Forensics



24hrs Forensics



The Configuration Settings of the Tool

24hr Forensics - Tool Invocation (Cont'd)

```
root@kali: ~/Desktop/24HoursForensicsAnalysisTool
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
..:quit, shared, restart-win
Analyzing downloaded files...
15 files will be scanned.
* Sending 10 Anti-Forensics 2.ppt to VirusTotal:
14:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
Scan finished, information embedded
Clean :)
* Sending desktop.ini to VirusTotal:
13:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
Scan finished, information embedded
Clean :)
* Sending eicar.com to VirusTotal:
12:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
* Sending eicar.com.txt to VirusTotal:
11:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
* Sending eicarcom2.zip to VirusTotal:
10:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
* Sending eicar_com.zip to VirusTotal:
9:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
* Sending malicious (2).zip to VirusTotal:
8:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
* Sending malicious.zip to VirusTotal:
7:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
* Sending TeamViewer Setup.exe to VirusTotal:
6:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
Scan finished, information embedded
Clean :)
* Sending jsp-reverse.jsp to VirusTotal:
3:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
Scan finished, information embedded
24 positives!
{MicroWorld-eScan: 'Backdoor.Small.DT', 'FireEye': 'Backdoor.Small.DT', 'McAfee': 'JSP/BackDoor.gen', 'ESET-NOD32': 'a variant of Generik.GSWTSKI', 'TrendMicro-HouseCall': 'HKTL_NETCAT', 'Avast': 'Java:JspShell-A [Trj]', 'BitDefender': 'Backdoor.Small.DT', 'Tencent': 'Html.Win32.Script.900628', 'Ad-Aware': 'Backdoor.Small.DT', 'Comodo': 'Malware@#wfczo3q2qy51', 'TrendMicro': 'HKTL_NETCAT', 'McAfee-GW-Edition': 'JSP/BackDoor.gen', 'Emsisoft': 'Backdoor.Small.DT (B)', 'Fortinet': 'Riskware/Generik.GSWTSKI!tr', 'Arcabit': 'Backdoor.Small.DT', 'AegisLab': 'Trojan.Script.Small.4!c', 'Microsoft': 'Backdoor:ASP/Aspy', 'AhnLab-V3': 'Script/Backdoor', 'ALYac': 'Backdoor.Small.DT', 'MAX': 'malWare (ai score=100)', 'Ikarus': 'Trojan.SuspectCRC', 'GData': 'Backdoor.Small.DT', 'AVG': 'Java:JspShell-A [Trj]', 'Oihoo-360': 'virus.js.qexvmc.1'}
* Sending shell.aspx to VirusTotal:
2:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
* Sending jsp-reverse.jsp to VirusTotal:
1:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
* Sending shell.aspx to VirusTotal:
0:Scan request successfully queued, come back later for the report
... done in 72 seconds.
TeamViewer log not present.
Scanning of image (/mnt/theimage/) finished in 305 seconds.
Please launch GUI to see result analysis.
(venv) root@kali:~/Desktop/24HoursForensicsAnalysisTool#
```

Downloaded files Analysis – VirusTotal integration

24hr Forensics - GUI & Analytics

24hrs Forensics - Kibana - Mozilla Firefox

localhost:5601/app/kibana#/dashboard/39069d60-5398-11e9-94b5-c3e1262d5987?embed=true&_g=(refreshInterval:(pause:lt,value:0),time:(from:'2019-04-13T14:14:15.797Z',mode:absolut...

Dashboard / 24hrs Forensics

Full screen Share Clone Edit Auto-refresh < April 13th 2019, 16:14:15.797 to April 13th 2019, 16:29:15.797

Time Range

Quick Relative Absolute Recent

From 2019-03-18 00:00:00.000 Set To Now To 2019-03-29 23:59:59.999 Set To Now

YYYY-MM-DD HH:mm:ss.SSS YYYY-MM-DD HH:mm:ss.SSS

< March 2019 > < March 2019 >

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					01	02						01	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09	03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31							31						

Go

>_ Search... (e.g. status:200 AND extension:PHP) Options Refresh

Add a filter +

Web Browsing History

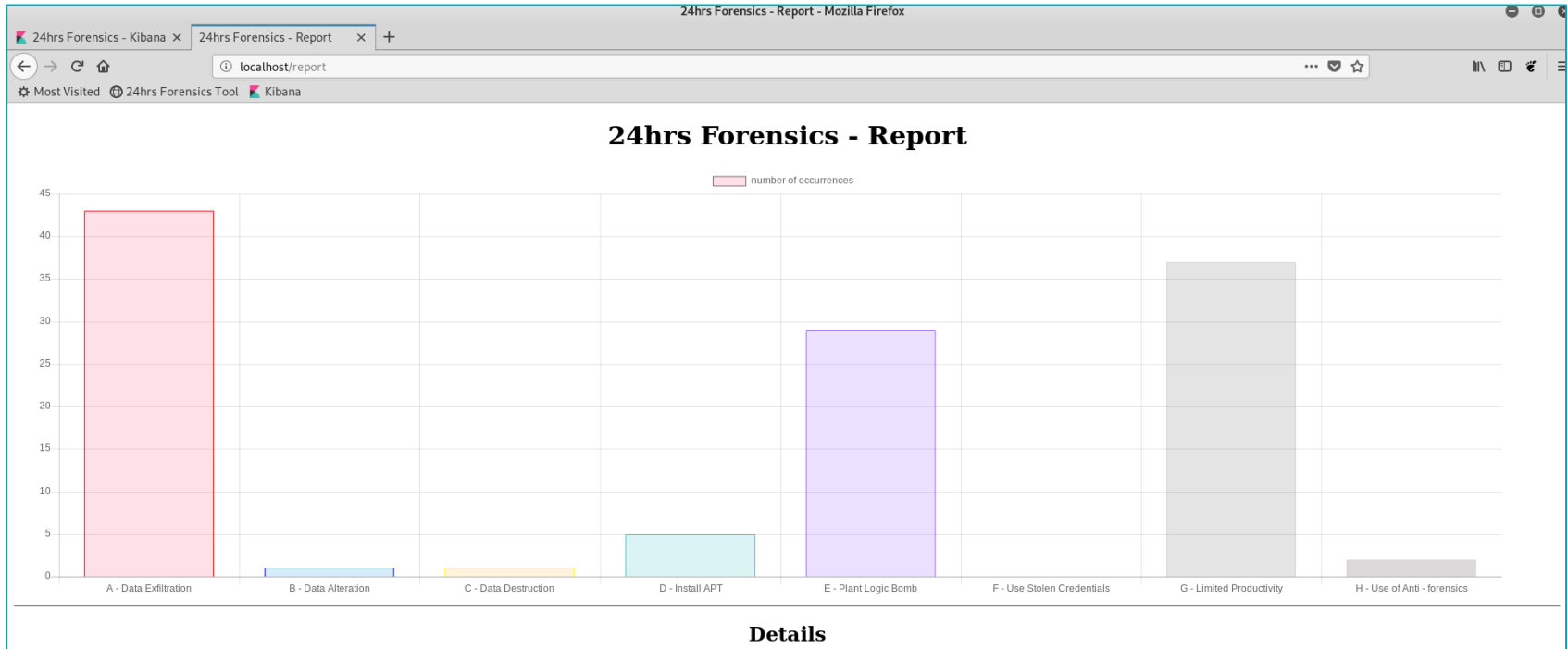
1.0

0.5

0.0

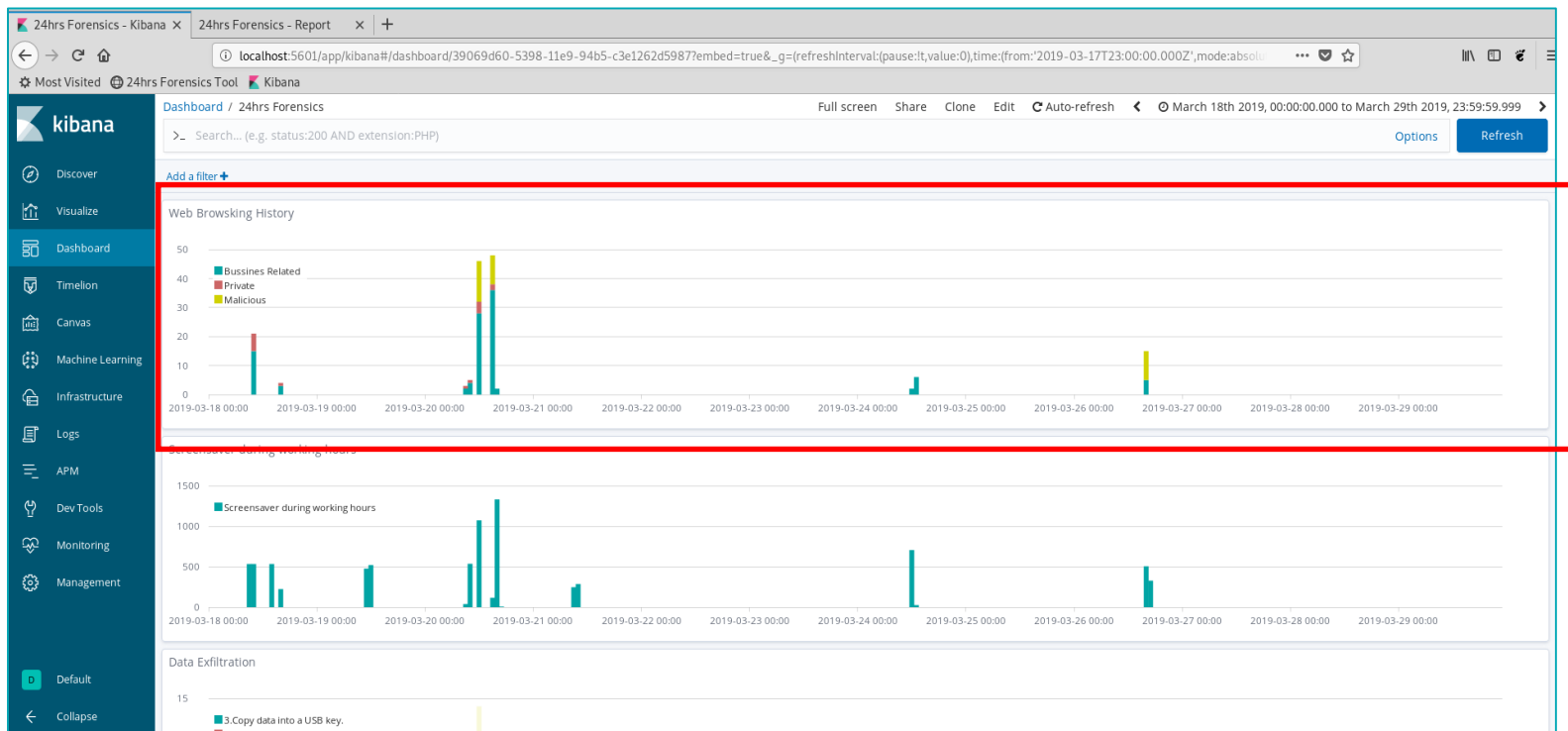
- Bussines Related
- Private
- Malicious

24hr Forensics - GUI & Analytics (cont'd)



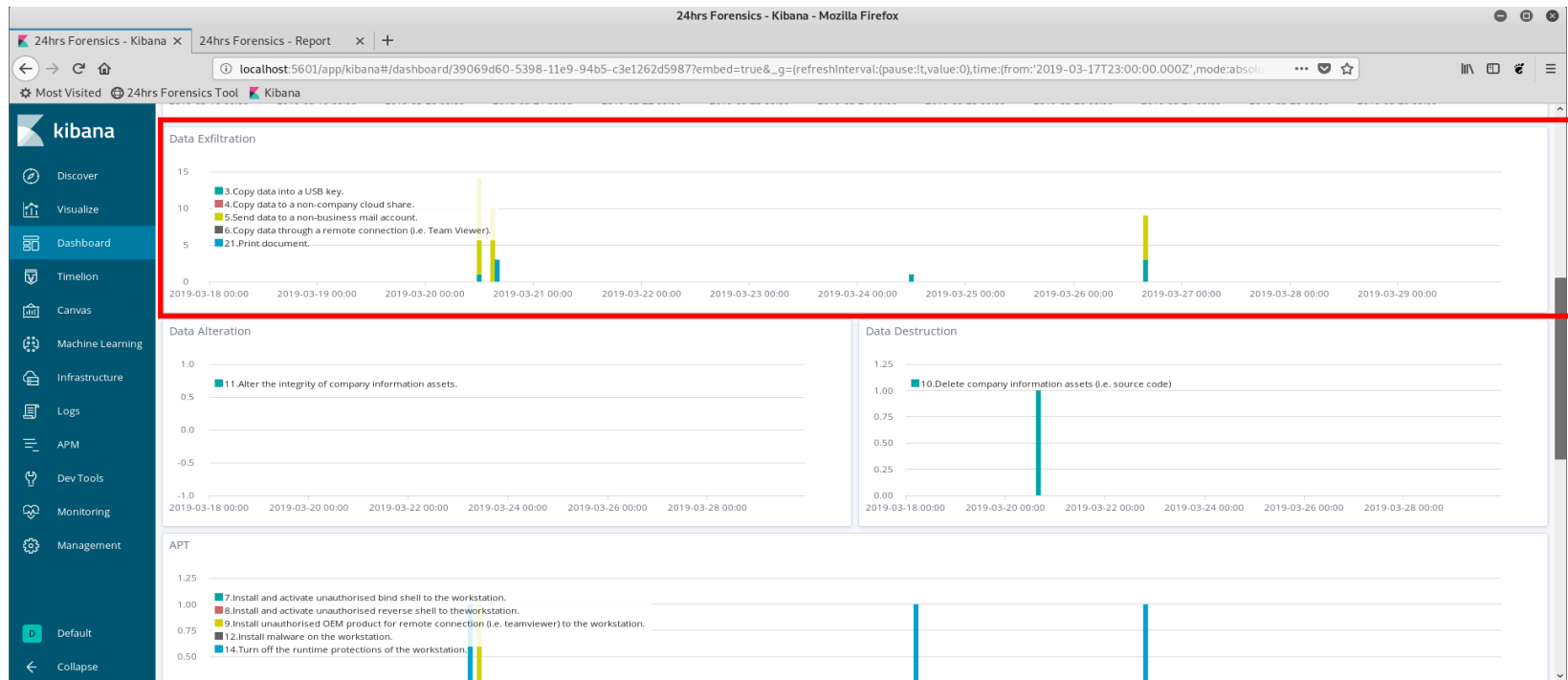
The Occurrences of the Identified Potential Threats

24hr Forensics - GUI & Analytics (cont'd)



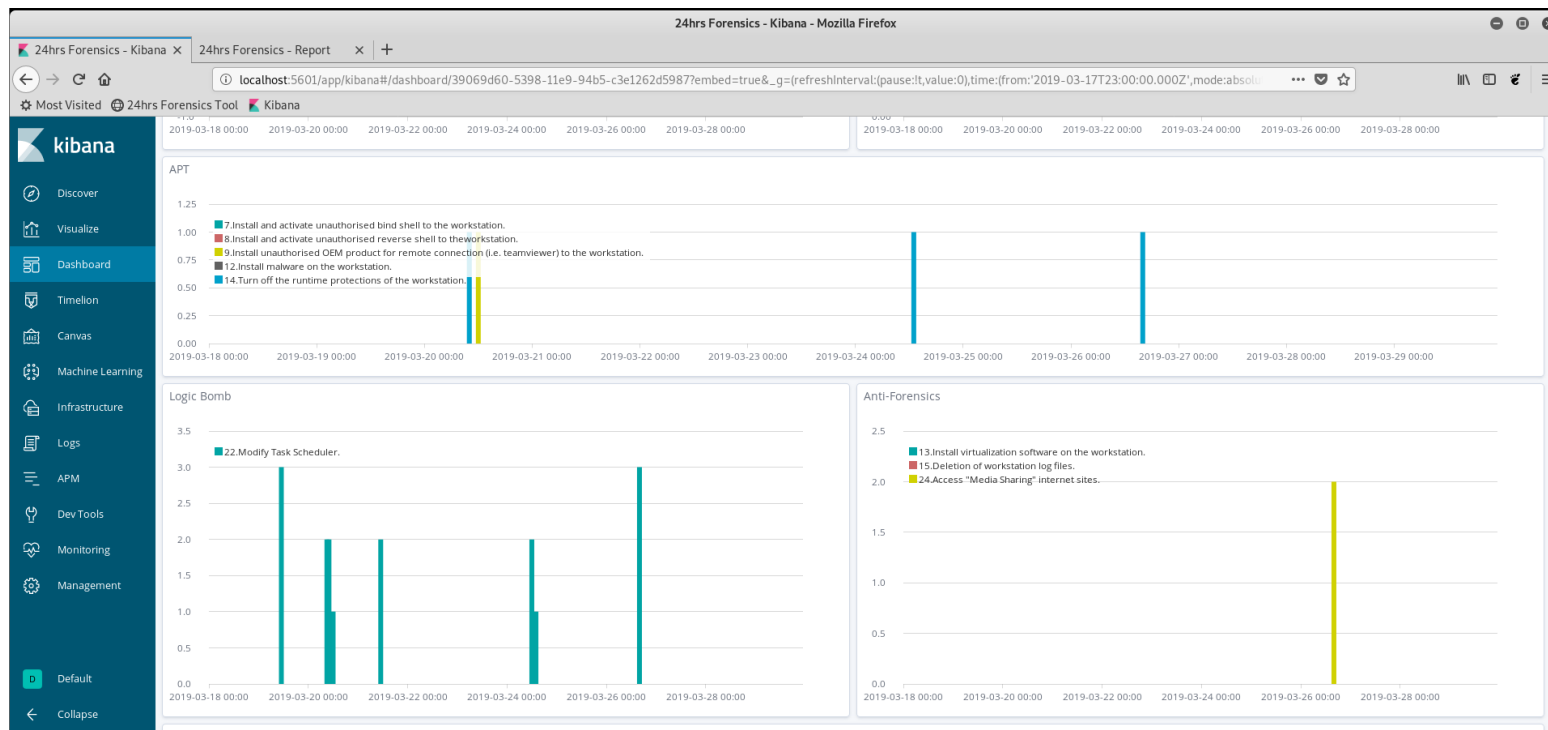
Analysis Results on Web Browsing History

24hr Forensics - GUI & Analytics (cont'd)



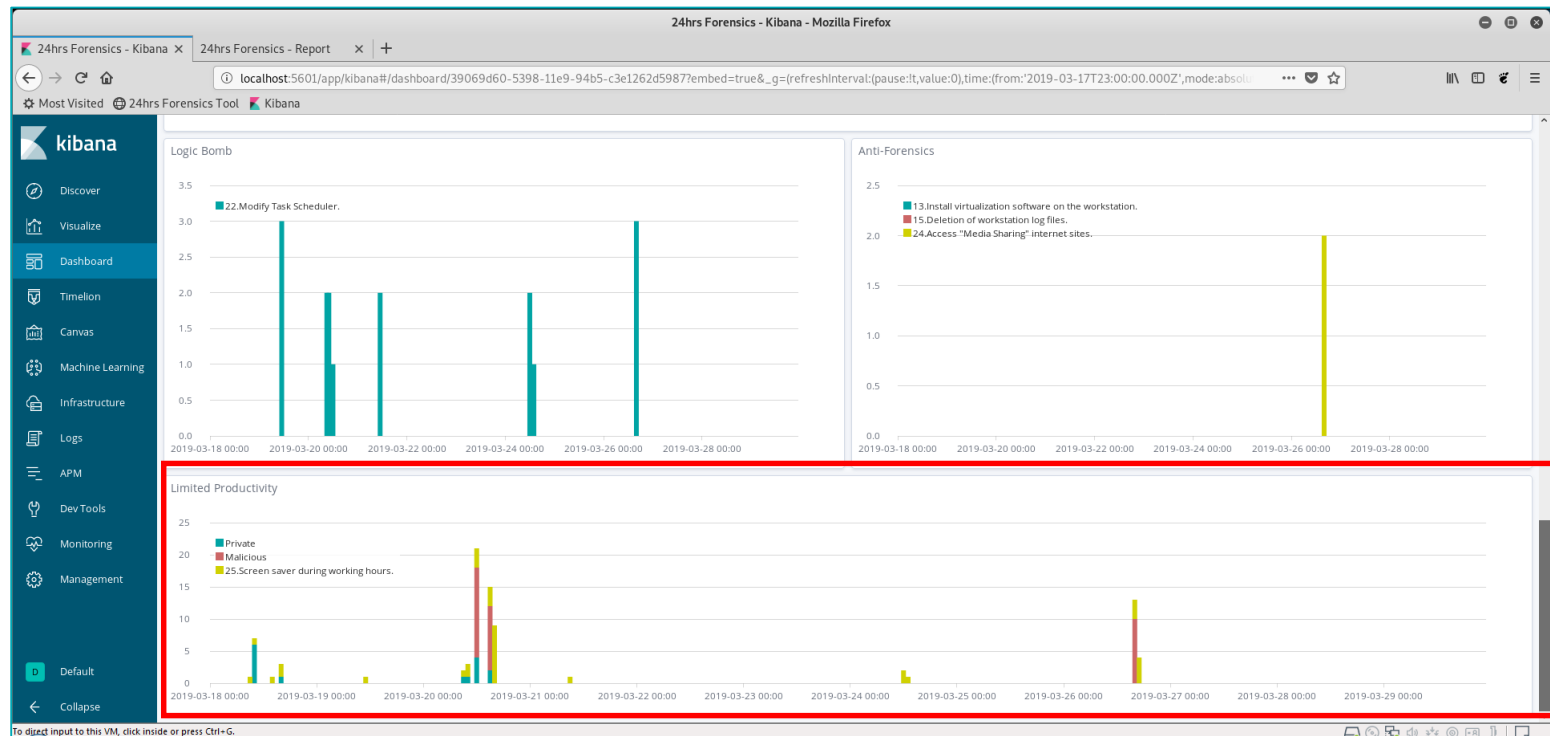
Analysis Results on Potential Data Exfiltration Attempts

24hr Forensics - GUI & Analytics (cont'd)



Analysis Results on Potential APT Attempts - Bomb Activation Attempts & Anti-forensics

24hr Forensics - GUI & Analytics (cont'd)

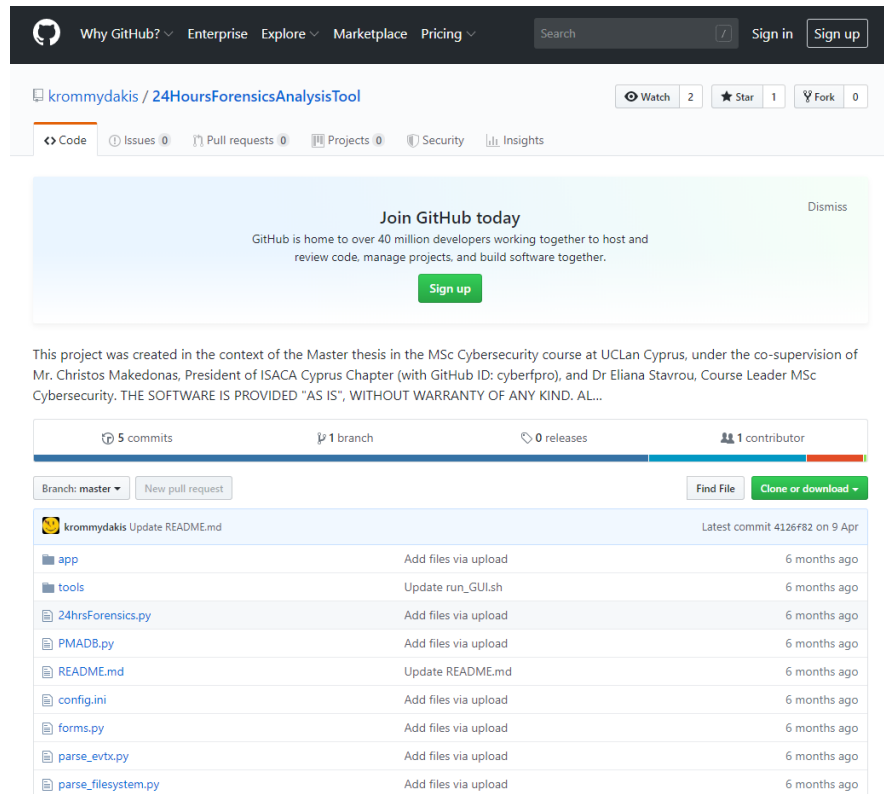


Analysis Results on Potential Limited Productivity

Areas for improvement

- Redesign the solution so as to perform real-time (and not static) acquisition of the artefacts
- Eliminate design flaws
- Enrich the detectable threat scenarios by taking into consideration alternative attack vectors for the various malicious actions
- Strengthen the threat identification capabilities, using supervised or reinforcement learning algorithms of machine learning
- Enrich the data visualization capabilities of the tool (i.e. by using Canvas features in Kibana).
- Support different vendor and versions of Operating Systems

Support this tool



The screenshot shows the GitHub interface for the repository 'krommydakis / 24HoursForensicsAnalysisTool'. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Why GitHub?', 'Enterprise', 'Explore', 'Marketplace', and 'Pricing', along with a search bar and 'Sign in' / 'Sign up' buttons. Below the repository name, there are statistics: 'Watch 2', 'Star 1', and 'Fork 0'. A 'Code' button is visible, along with links for 'Issues 0', 'Pull requests 0', 'Projects 0', 'Security', and 'Insights'. A prominent banner encourages users to 'Join GitHub today', stating that GitHub is home to over 40 million developers and includes a 'Sign up' button. Below the banner, a paragraph of text reads: 'This project was created in the context of the Master thesis in the MSc Cybersecurity course at UCLan Cyprus, under the co-supervision of Mr. Christos Makedonas, President of ISACA Cyprus Chapter (with GitHub ID: cyberpro), and Dr Eliana Stavrou, Course Leader MSc Cybersecurity. THE SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED "AS IS", WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND. AL...'. The repository statistics show '5 commits', '1 branch', '0 releases', and '1 contributor'. A 'Find File' button and a 'Clone or download' button are present. A table lists the repository's files and their commit history:

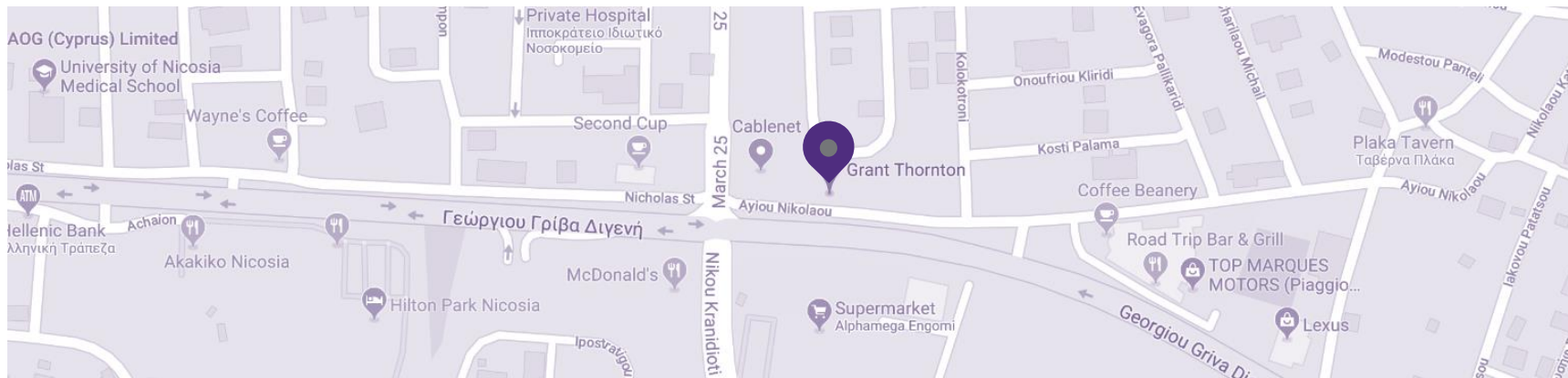
File Name	Commit Action	Time
app	Add files via upload	6 months ago
tools	Update run_GUI.sh	6 months ago
24hrsForensics.py	Add files via upload	6 months ago
PMADB.py	Add files via upload	6 months ago
README.md	Update README.md	6 months ago
config.ini	Add files via upload	6 months ago
forms.py	Add files via upload	6 months ago
parse_extx.py	Add files via upload	6 months ago
parse_filesystem.py	Add files via upload	6 months ago



<https://github.com/krommydakis/24HoursForensicsAnalysisTool>

Thank you.

Stay in touch



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