

# Digital Forensics



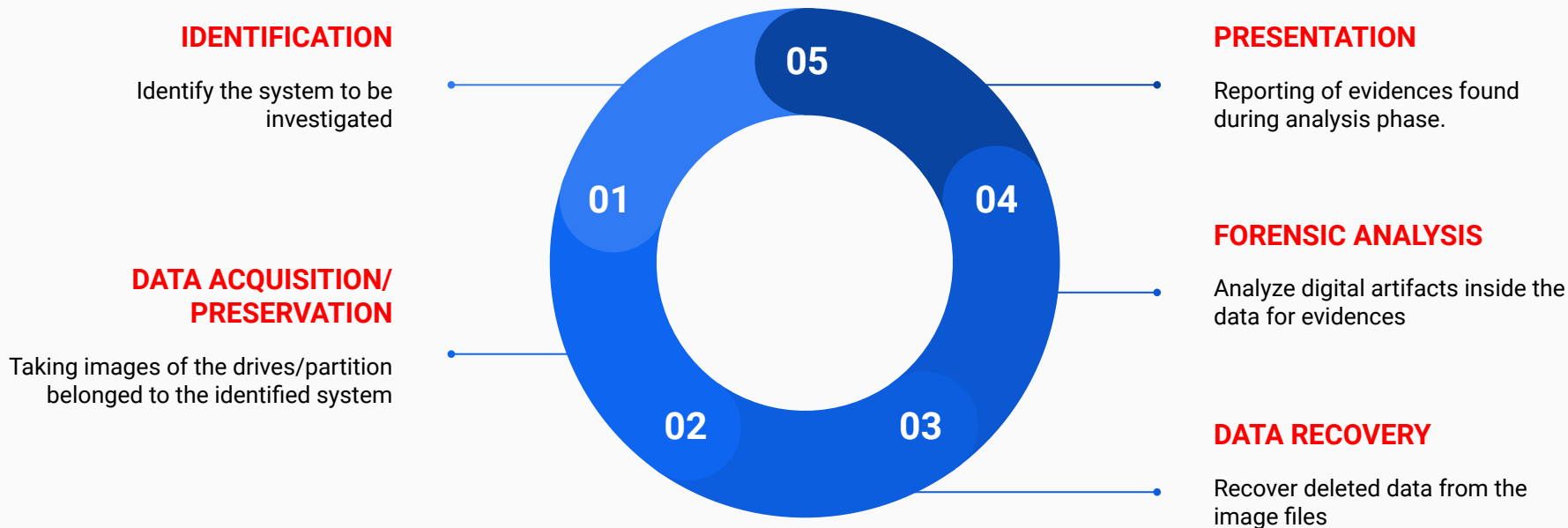
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PSG college of Technology

**Cybercrime** - any criminal offence that involves computer / network or ECD where the computer is used to either commit the crime or is the target of the crime.

**Digital Forensics** is the process of identifying, preserving, analyzing and presenting **digital evidence** in a format that is **legally acceptable**.

*Proactive & Reactive*

# Forensic Investigation Process



# Identification



## Storage Devices



# Data Acquisition and Preservation

- **Holistic capture and preservation of the evidence is required**
- Transfer the contents to another empty media storage
- Maintain integrity of the copy (Transfer is complete)  
Copy is an exact replica of the original media
- **Chain of Custody** is maintained

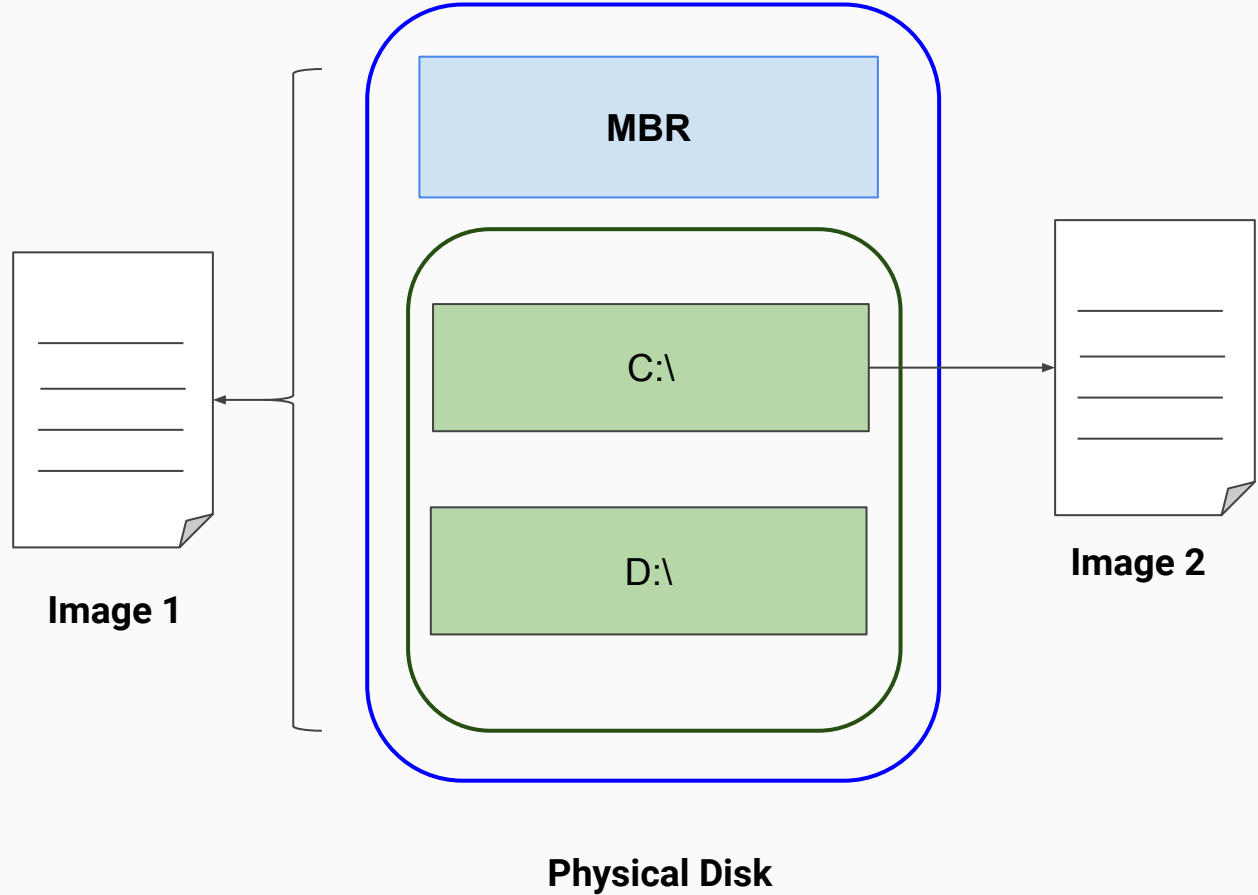
*Chain of Custody - log for the digital evidence*

## Hardware Write Blockers

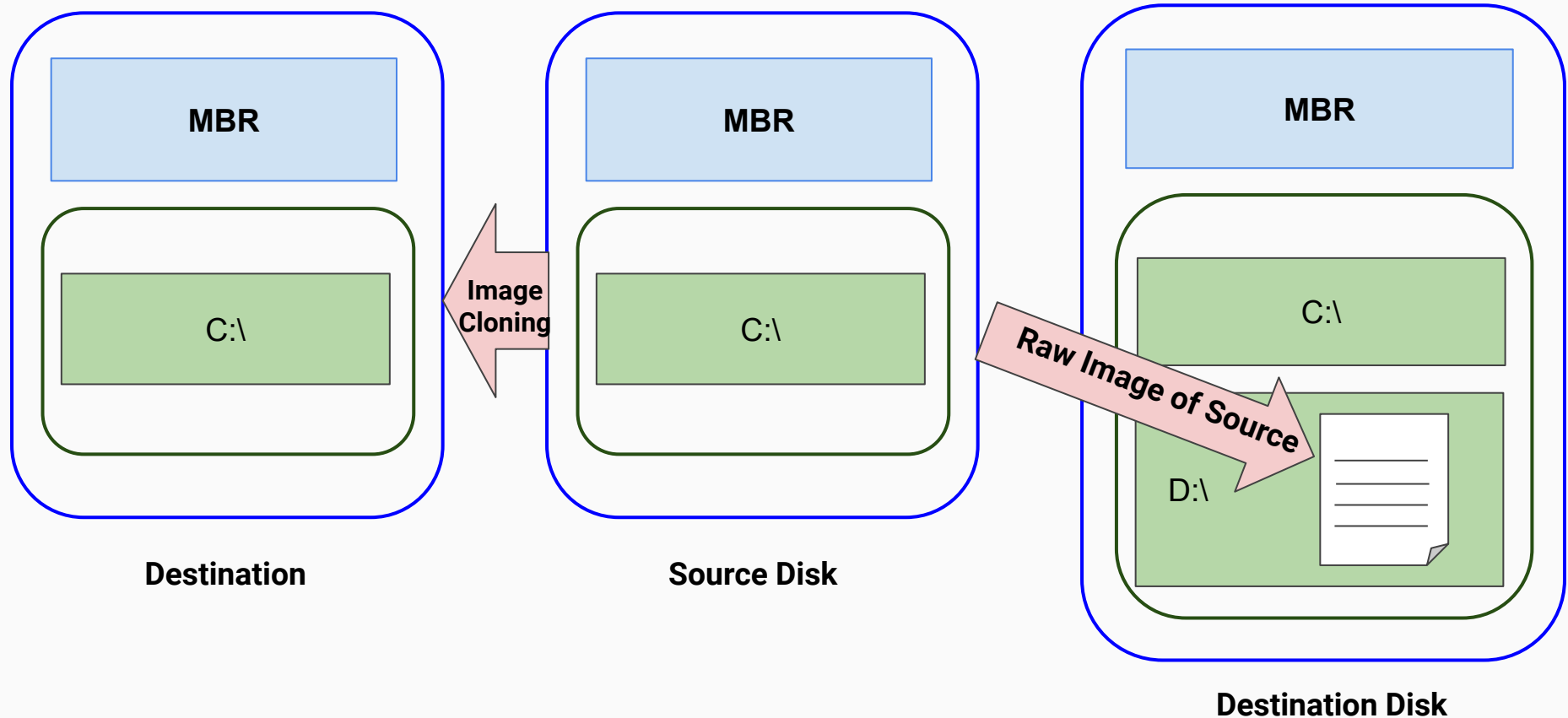


**Source:** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Portable\\_forensic\\_tableau.JPG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Portable_forensic_tableau.JPG)

A **disk image** is a bit by bit copy of a full disk or a single partition from a disk. Because the contents of a disk are constantly changing on a running system, disk images are often created following an intrusion or incident to preserve the state of a disk at a particular point in time.



# Methods for creating Forensic Image



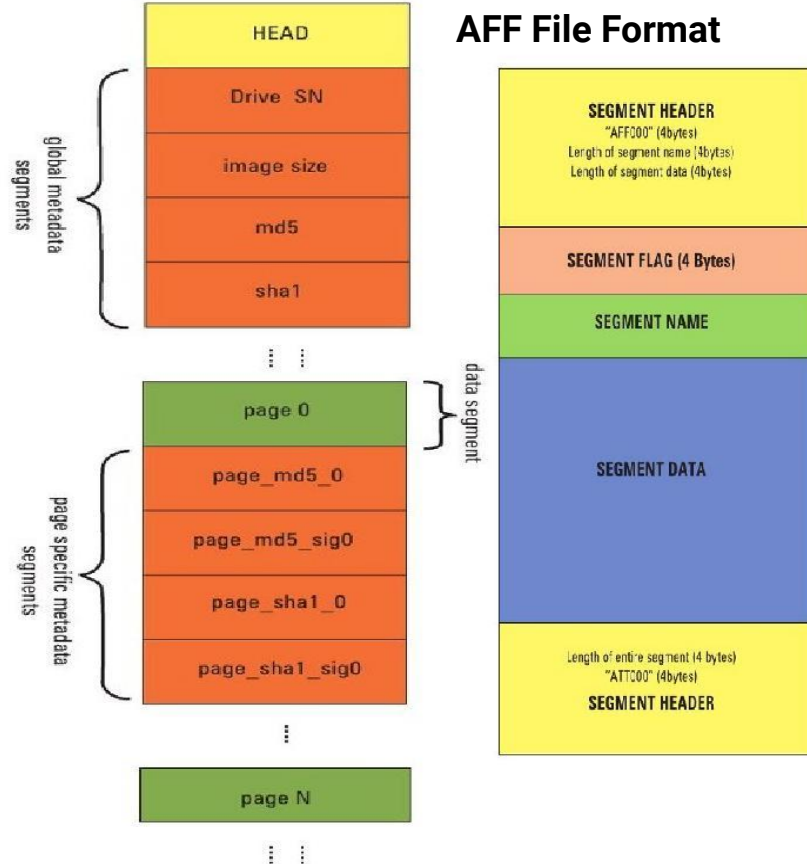
# Disk Image File Formats

- Raw Imaging Format
  - AFF (Advanced Forensic Format)
  - Encase Evidence File Images (Express witness format E01(EWF))
- } Independent of any forensic package

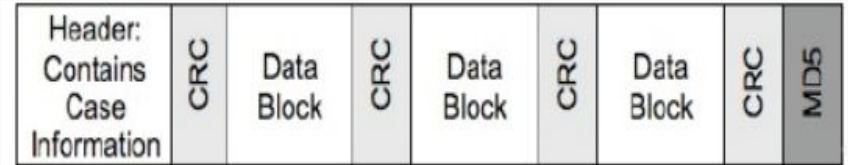


**Raw Image Format** (.raw , .dd , .img)





## Encase File Format



# Tools for acquisition

- **dd** Command line utility for acquiring digital images

**dd if=<media/partition on a media> of=<image\_file>**

**Example:** dd if=/dev/sdc of=image.dd

- **dd\_rescue** Imaging potentially failing media

**dd\_rescue <input file> <out file>**

**Example:** dd\_rescue /dev/sdc image.ddrescue

- **dcfldd** Provides additional features

**dcfldd <options> if=<input media> of=<image\_file>**

**Example:**

**dcfldd if=/dev/hdc hash=md5 hashwindow=10G md5log=md5.txt hashconv=after bs=512 conv=noerror,sync split=10G splitformat=aa of=image.dd**

# Forensic Analysis

- **Data Recovery**
  - Recover and analyze deleted files that have not been overwritten
  - Carving unallocated and slack space
- **String and Keyword Searching**
  - Identify text within a binary file
- **Volatile Evidence Analysis**
  - Provides details about the state of the system
  - Applications used by the suspect
  - Connections, processes and cache tables gathered from RAM
- **Timeline Analysis**
  - Creates timeline of events
- **System file analysis**
  - Any unauthorized changes that are made to system binaries

## Kali linux

open source linux distribution  
specially tailored for digital  
forensics

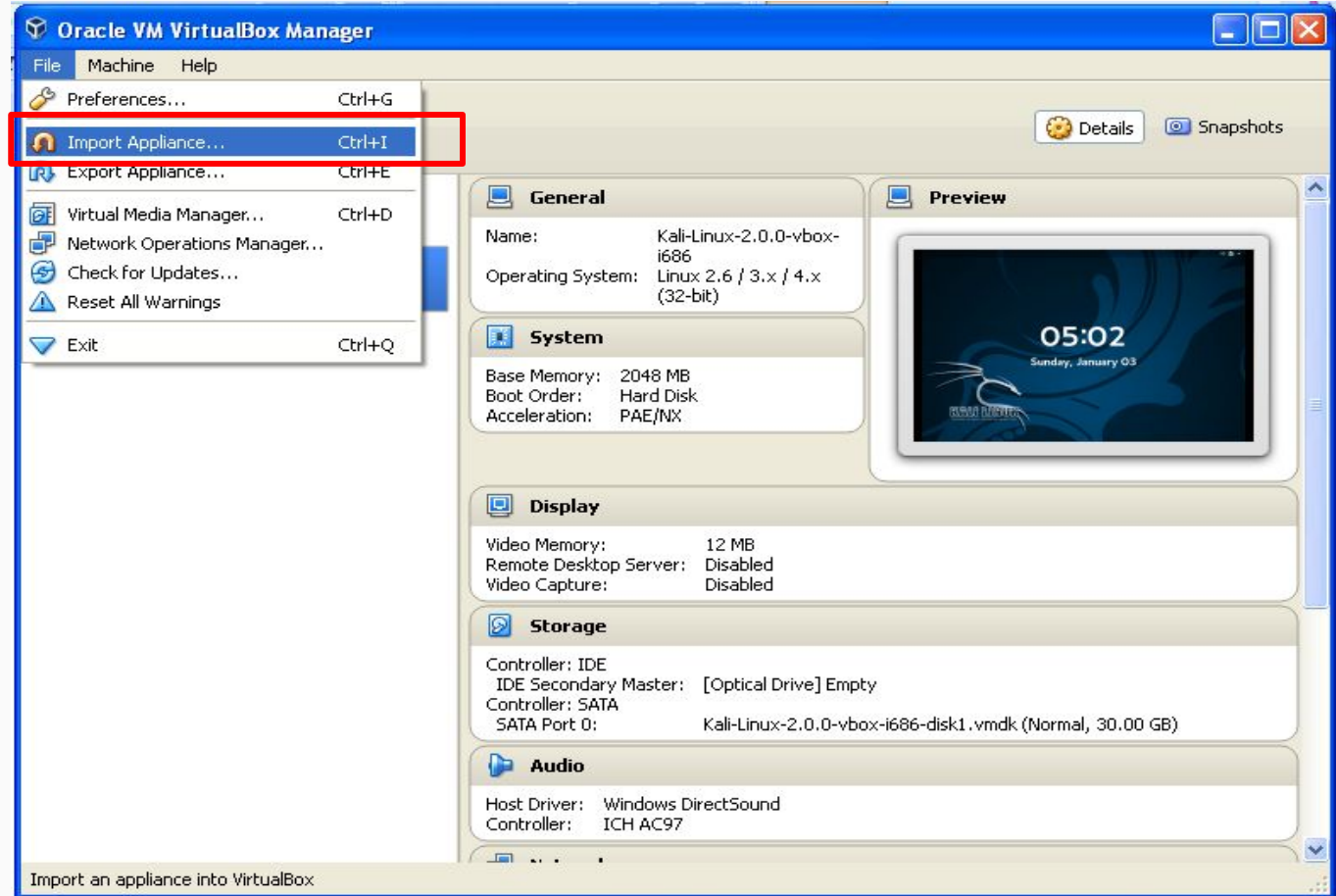
- Binwalk
- Autopsy
- Bulk\_extractor
- DFF
- md5deep
- Volatility
- Volafox
- chrrootkit



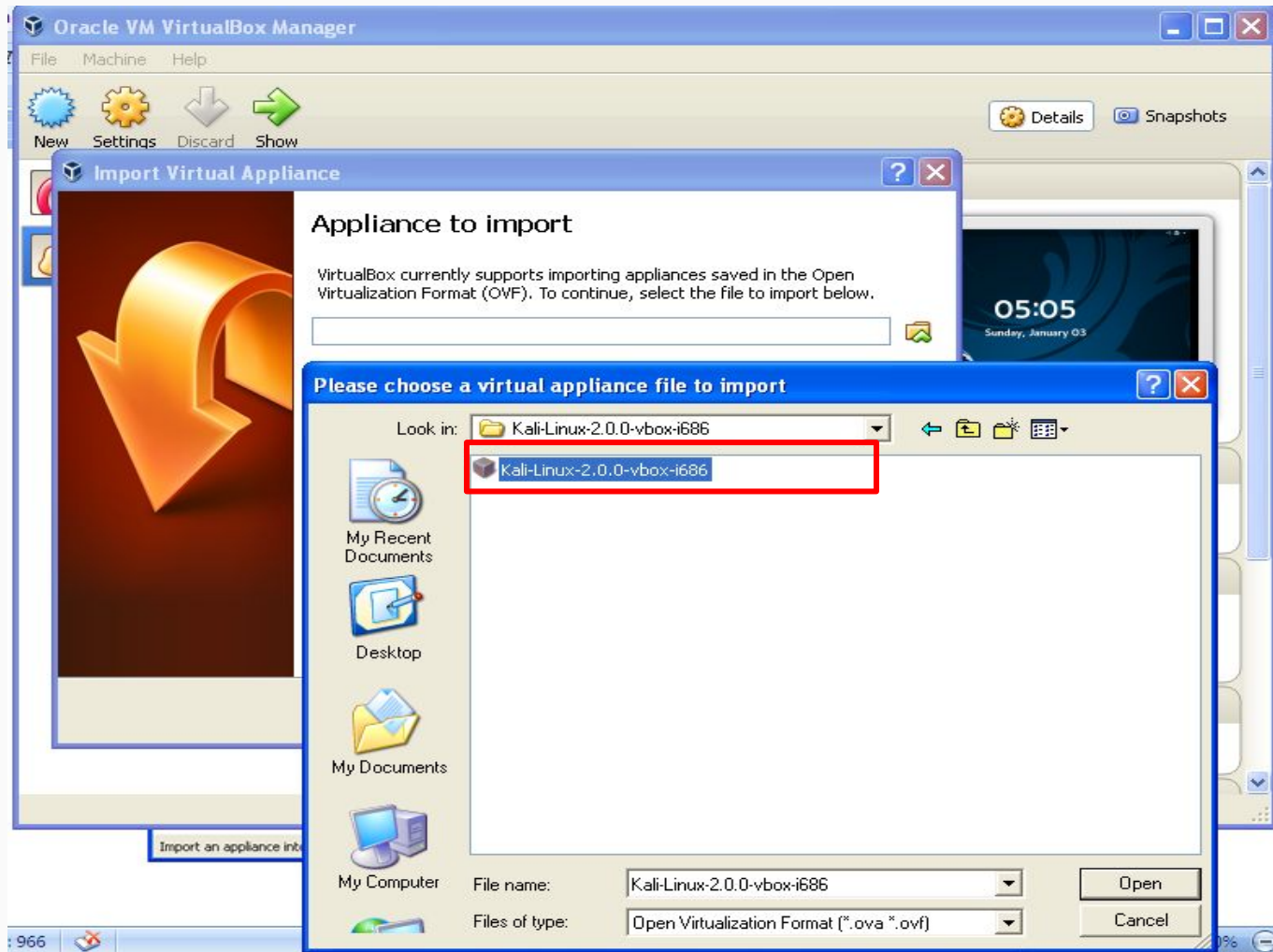
<b>Tools</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Autopsy	Examine file system in an non-intrusive manner
Binwalk	Search given binary image for embedded files and executable code
Bulk-Extractor	Extract features such as email-address, credit card numbers, URLs and other type of information from digital evidence files.
DFF	Digital Forensic Framework Collect, Preserve and reveal digital evidences without compromising system and data
Guymager	Media acquisition
Foremost	Recover lost files based on headers, footers and internal data structures
md5deep	Verify the integrity of the file
Volatility	Extraction of digital artifacts from RAM (Random Access Memory)
chkrootkit	Check the system for common rootkits

Kali linux distribution is booted as a virtual machine inside Virtual Box.

**Virtual Appliance - pre-configured operating system**



Choose the kali linux ova file located in the local directory and click **Import**

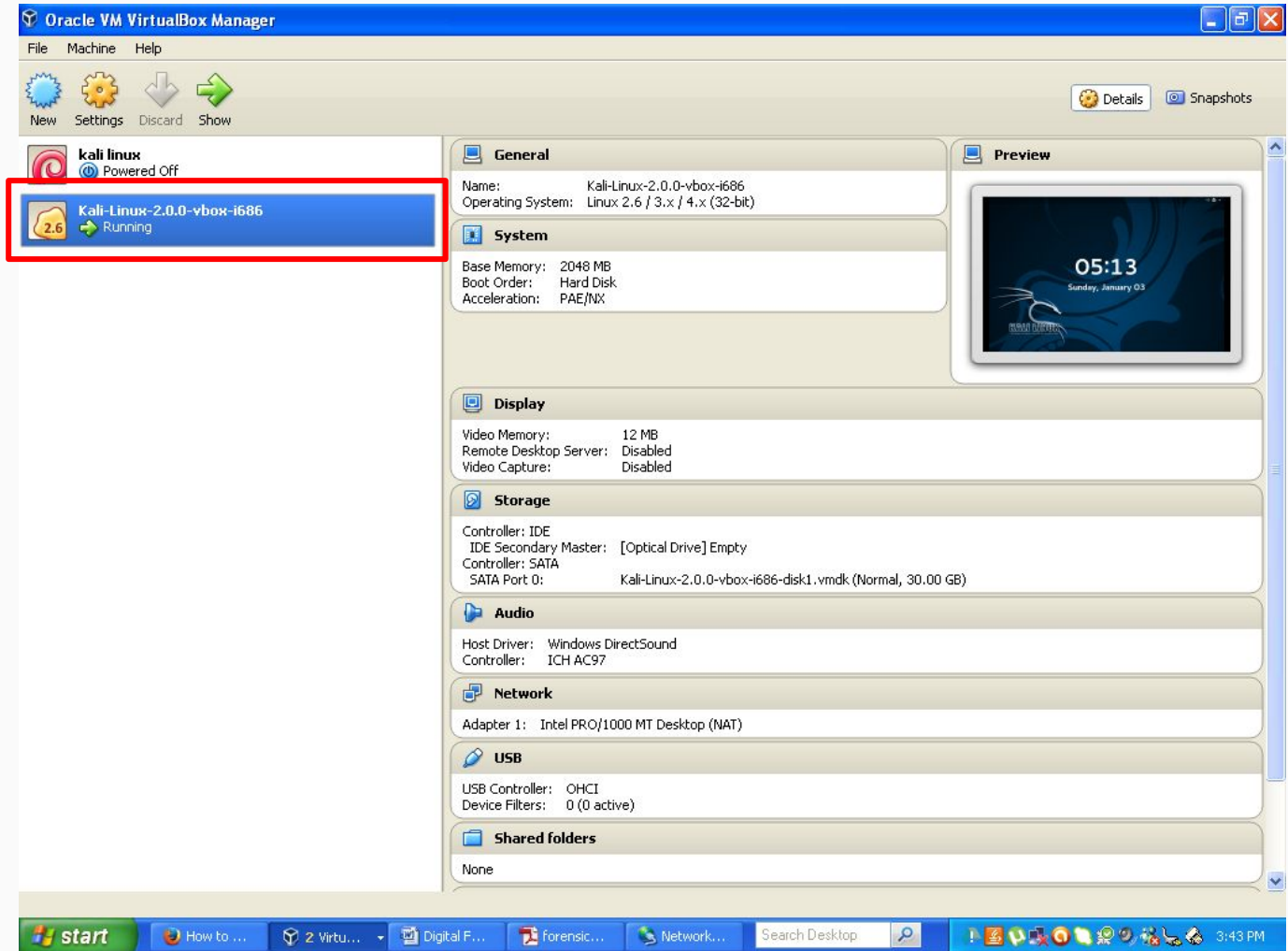


Start the virtual machine

Default username : **root**

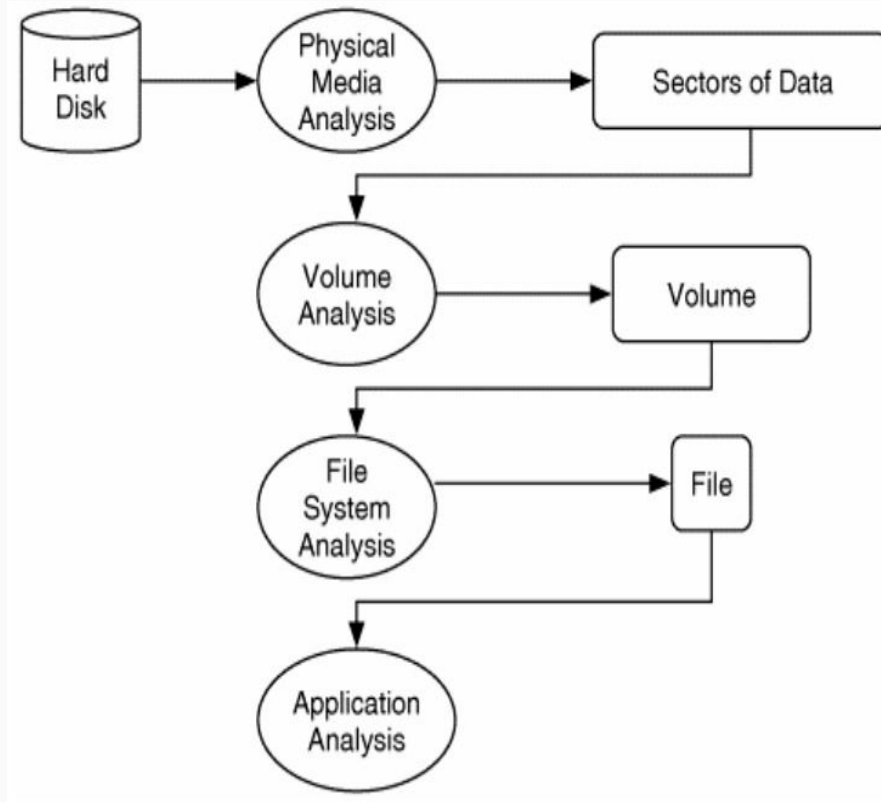
Password : **toor**

All the necessary Images  
are available in  
**/root/Documents/Images**

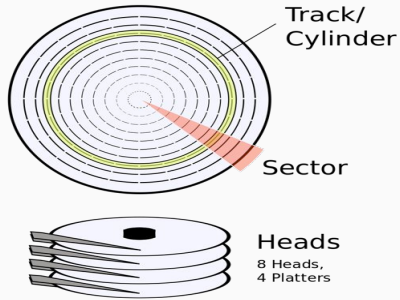




# Forensic Analysis- Autopsy Sleuth Kit



# Layers of Data Organization



## Disk Layer

Physical storage device

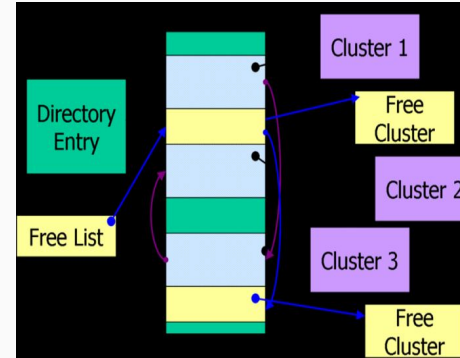
Analyzing information at this level is bit complex

Track - concentric circle that stores information

Sector - section of track with specified size

Cylinder - column of track across platter

Sector - physical address / firmware

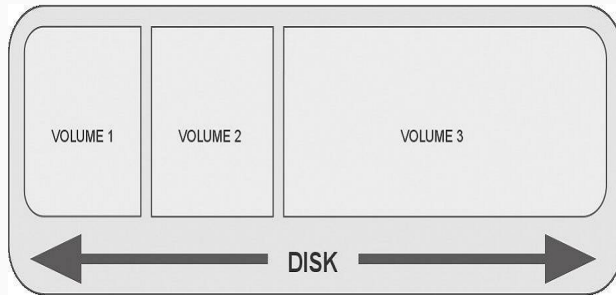


## File system Layer

Metadata specific to file system

Describes the layout of files

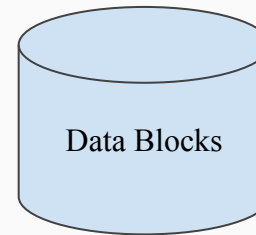
Volume is organized effectively by file systems



## Partition Layer

Disk is divided into partitions

Each partition/volume can use different file system



## Block Layer

Actual Data resides in a block

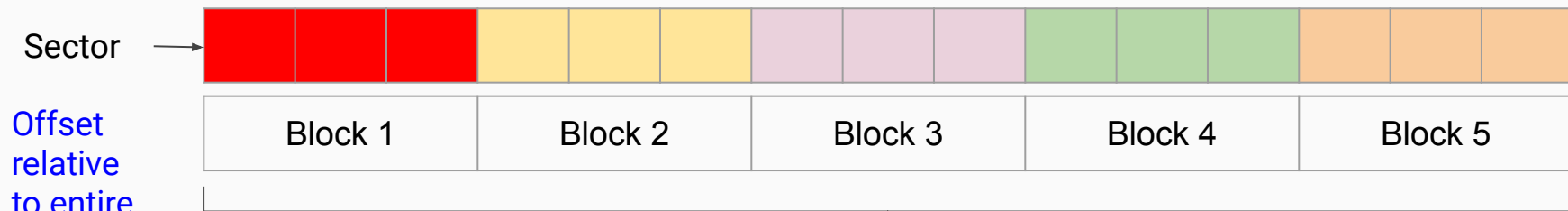
# Sleuth kit tools

Layer	Tools	Purpose
Image File	img_stat	Display information about a disk image
	img_cat	Dump the entire bitstream of disk image (Removes wrapper if using EO1 , AFF )
Volume System	mmls	Display partition layout of a volume system
	mmstat	Display information about volume system
	mmcat	Dump the entire bitstream of a partition
File System	fsstat	Display file system layouts Layout , sizes , labels
File Name	fls	List allocated and unallocated file entries
	ffind	File entries of a given metadata

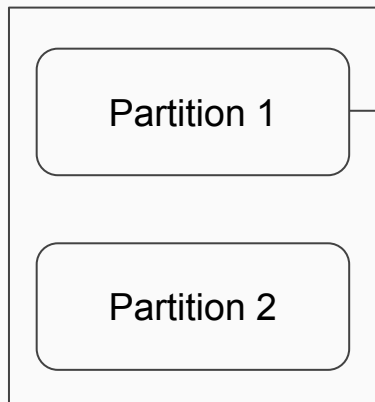
Layer	Tools	Purpose
Metadata	ils	List metadata structure and their contents
	ifind	Find metadata structure referred by a file name entry
	istat	Display information about a specific metadata structure
	icat	Extract data units of a file specified by metadata structure
Data Unit	blkls	List details about data units (unallocated)
	blkstat	Display information about specific data unit
	blkcat	Extract contents of a data unit
	blkcalc	Calculate location of where data in unallocated space exist

Layer	Tools	Purpose
Additional tools	tsk_loaddata	Extract metadata into a SQLite database
	tsk_recover	Extract allocated or unallocated files from a disk image
	mactime	Create timeline of activity
	sorter	Sorts files based on type

# Organization of data



Blocks are numbered from 0 for each partition



Inode entry	File	Metadata/ block information	Allocation status
1023	/usr/login/x.c	1-4	Allocated
34	/root/bin	6	unallocated

## Case study 1: Deleted File Identification and Recovery

### To recover deleted file from raw image able2.dd

1. Analyze the Image
2. Display the partition table
3. Identify the sector offset for second partition
4. Display the file system
5. List files
6. Identify delete files
7. Recover the image corresponding to inode entry 11108
8. Recover the deleted file corresponding to inode entry 2139
9. Identify the type of the deleted file

## Case study 2: Physical String Search and Allocation Status

1. Identify the byte locations which contains string "Cybernetik"
2. Find the sector to which byte corresponds to
3. Identify its partition
4. Calculate byte offset within partition
5. Find the block number
6. Get the status of the block
7. Identify inode entry
8. Using the inode number recover the contents



## Case study 3: Speed up the String search by extracting the unallocated block

1. Extract unallocated blocks of the partition
2. Search keyword inside the block
3. Identify the block in extracted unallocated blocks
4. Find the actual block offset in partition
5. Get the status of the block
6. Identify inode entry
7. Using the inode number recover the contents

## Task 1

Identify deleted files in dfr-01-fat.dd

## Challenge 1

Unzip the folder to get the flag  
flag.zip



## Challenge 2

Hint is in the figure  
`hex_editor.png`



## Challenge 3

What is hidden in the image?? `flag.png`



## Challenge 4

Find the flag in raw image animals.dd



# Test Images

1. Computer Forensic Reference Datasets <https://www.cfreds.nist.gov/>
2. Digital Corpora <https://digitalcorpora.org/corpora/disk-images>
3. Digital Forensic Tool Testing Images <http://dftt.sourceforge.net/>
4. LinuxLeo <https://www.linuxleo.com>

## **Competition links:**

1. <https://picoctf.com/>
2. <https://dfrws.org/dfrws-forensic-challenge>

## dcfldd options

- `split=<bytes>` Specifies the size of each of the output image files.
- `vf=<file>` Specifies the image file that needs to be verified against the input.
- `splitformat=<text>` Specifies the format for multiple image files when using splitting.
- `hash=<names>` Specifies one or more (a comma-separated list) of hash algorithms, such as md5, sha1, etc.
- `hashwindow=<bytes>` Specifies the number of bytes of input media for calculation of hash.
- `<hash algorithm>log=<file>` Specifies output files for hash calculations of a particular hash algorithm.
- `conv=<keywords>` Specifies conversions of input media according to a comma-separated list of keywords, such as noerror (continue after read errors), ucase (change lower to upper case), etc.
- `hashconv=before|after` Specifies the hash calculation before or after the specified conversion options.
- `bs=<block size>` Specifies the input and output block size.