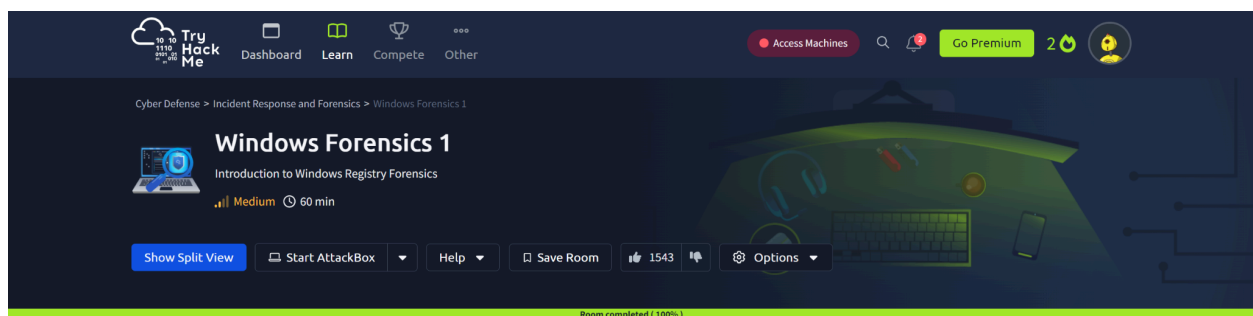


# WINDOWS FORENSICS 1

## ASSIGNMENT REPORT



**Peter Kinyumu,**  
**cs-sa07-24067,**  
**July 20th, 2024**

# 1. INTRODUCTION

This room teaches how to perform Windows registry forensics. It explains why the registry is a rich source of forensics evidence, then goes ahead to show how to access the different registry hives, tools used and the different artefacts like system information, program execution and external devices that were connected to the victim machine.

## 2. ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Introduction to Windows Forensics

- a. What is the most used Desktop Operating System right now?
- **Microsoft Windows**

### Windows Registry and Forensics

- a. What is the short form for HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE?
- **HKLM**

### Accessing Registry hives offline

- a. What is the path for the five main registry hives, DEFAULT, SAM, SECURITY, SOFTWARE, and SYSTEM?
- **C:\Windows\System32\Config**
- b. What is the path for the AmCache hive?
- **C:\Windows\AppCompat\Programs\Amcache.hve**

Answer the questions below

What is the path for the five main registry hives, DEFAULT, SAM, SECURITY, SOFTWARE, and SYSTEM?

C:\Windows\System32\Config ✓ Correct Answer ? Hint

What is the path for the AmCache hive?

C:\Windows\AppCompat\Programs\Amcache.hve ✓ Correct Answer

### System Information and System accounts

- a. What is the Current Build Number of the machine whose data is being investigated?
- **19044**

Course: Cyber Security Analyst x TryHackMe | Windows Forensic: x WINDOWS FORENSICS 1 - Go x +

tryhackme.com/r/room/windowsforensics1

Crackmes Gmail YouTube Maps Web

TryHackMe Dashboard Learn Compete Other

Access Machines Go Premium 0

This is how Registry Explorer shows this registry key. Take a look and answer Question # 1.

Value Name	Value Type	Data	Value Slack
SystemRoot	RegSz	C:\WINDOWS	00-00-00-00-00-00
BaseBuildRevisionNumber	RegDword	1	
BuildBranch	RegSz	vb_release	00-00-00-00-00-00
BuildGUID	RegSz	ffffffff-ffff-ffff-ffff-ffff	00-00
BuildLab	RegSz	19041.vb_release.191206-1406	00-00
BuildLabEx	RegSz	19041.L.amd64fre.vb_release.191206-1406	00-00-00-00
CompositionEditionID	RegSz	Enterprise	00-00-00-00-00-05
CurrentBuild	RegSz	19044	
CurrentBuildNumber	RegSz	19044	
CurrentMajorVersionNumber	RegDword	10	
CurrentMinorVersionNumber	RegDword	0	
CurrentType	RegSz	Multiprocessor Free	65-00-44-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00
CurrentVersion	RegSz	6.3	00-00-00-00
EditionID	RegSz	Professional	00-00
EditionSubManufacturer	RegSz		
EditionSubstring	RegSz		
EditionSubVersion	RegSz		
InstallationType	RegSz	Client	00-00-00-00-00-00
InstallDate	RegDword	1637778211	
ProductName	RegSz	Windows 10 Pro	72-00-70-00-72-00-69-00-73-00-65-00-00-00
ReleasedId	RegSz	2009	00-00
SoftwareType	RegSz	System	00-00-00-00-00-00

b. Which ControlSet contains the last known good configuration?

1

Course: Cyber Security Analyst x TryHackMe | Windows Forensic: x WINDOWS FORENSICS 1 - Go x +

tryhackme.com/r/room/windowsforensics1

Crackmes Gmail YouTube Maps Web

TryHackMe Dashboard Learn Compete Other

Access Machines Go Premium 0

This is how it looks like in Registry Explorer. Take a look and answer Question # 2.

Value Name	Value Type	Data	Value Slack
Current	RegDword	1	
Default	RegDword	1	
Failed	RegDword	0	
LastKnownGood	RegDword	1	

It is vital to establish this information before moving forward with the analysis. As we will see, many forensic artifacts we collect will be collected from the Control Sets.

c. What is the Computer Name of the computer?

THM-4n6



## f. What is the RID of the Guest User account?

● 501

Take a look at the below screenshot and answer Question # 6.

User Id	Invalid	Total L	Create	Last L	Last Pa	Last In	Expires	User N	Full Na	Passw	Groups	Comment	User C	Home	Interne	Accoun	Home
501	0	0	2021-1...								Guests	Built-in account for guest access to the computer (domain)					
503	0	0	2021-1...					DefaultA			System Managed Accounts Group	A user account managed by the system.					
504	0	0	2021-1...			2021-1...		WDAGN	ityAccou			A user account managed and used					

## Usage or Knowledge of files/folders

### a. When was EZtools opened?

● 2021-12-01 13:00:34

NTUSER.DAT\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\RecentDocs

Extension	Value Name	Target Name	Link Name	Mru Position	Opened On	Extension Last Opened
RecentDocs	7	EZtools	EZtools.lnk		0 2021-12-01 13:00:34	
RecentDocs	6	Settings	Settings.lnk	1		2021-11-30 10:56:23
RecentDocs	5	WallpaperSettings.xml	WallpaperSettings.lnk	2		2021-11-30 10:56:21
RecentDocs	4	System and Security	System.lnk	3		
RecentDocs	3	System and Security	System.lnk	4		
RecentDocs	1	KAPE	KAPE.lnk	5		
RecentDocs	0	Get-KAPEUpdate.ps1	Get-KAPEUpdate.lnk	6		2021-11-24 18:18:48
RecentDocs	2	Changelop.txt	Changelop.lnk	7		2021-11-24 18:18:48
Folder	2	Settings	Settings.lnk	0	2021-11-30 10:56:23	

### b. At what time was My Computer last interacted with?

● 2021-12-01 13:06:47

NTUSER.DAT\Software\Microsoft\Windows\Shell\Bags

Registry Explorer doesn't give us much information about ShellBags. However, another tool from Eric Zimmerman's tools called the ShellBag Explorer shows us the information in an easy-to-use format. We just have to point to the hive file we have extracted, and it parses the data and shows us the results. An example is shown below. Take a look and answer Question # 2.

Value	Scan	Shell Type	MRU Posit...	Created On	Modified On	Accessed On	First Interacted	Last Interacted	Has Explored	Miscellaneous
My Computer	No in	Root folder: GUID	0					2021-12-01 13:08:47	✓	
My Computer	No in	Root folder: GUID	1	2021-11-20 03:34:14	2021-11-20 03:34:14	2021-11-20 03:34:14			✓	NTFS file system
Home Folder	No in	Root folder: GUID	2				2021-11-24 18:20:02		✓	
Search Folder	No in	Users property view	3				2021-11-30 11:08:01		✓	
Search Folder	No in	Users property view	4				2021-11-30 11:08:52		✓	
Control Panel	No in	Root folder: GUID	5						✓	
Control Panel	No in	Users property view: Drive letter	6				2021-11-24 18:20:02		✓	

c. What is the Absolute Path of the file opened using notepad.exe?

- C:\Program Files\Amazon\Ec2ConfigService\Settings

d. When was this file opened?

- 2021-11-30 10:56:19

NTUSER.DAT\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\ComDlg32\OpenSavePidlMRU

NTUSER.DAT\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\ComDlg32\LastVisitedPidlMRU

This is how Registry Explorer shows this registry key. Take a look to answer Question # 3 and 4.

Value Name	MRU Position	Executable	Absolute Path	Opened On
0		notepad.exe	My Computer\Program Files\Amazon\Ec2ConfigService\Settings	2021-11-30 10:56:19

## Evidence of Execution

a. How many times was the File Explorer launched?

- 26

Course: Cyber Security Analyst x TryHackMe | Windows Forensic: x WINDOWS FORENSICS 1 - Go x +

tryhackme.com/r/room/windowsforensics1

Crackmes Gmail YouTube Maps Web

TryHackMe Dashboard Learn Compete Other

Access Machines Go Premium 0

NTUSER.DAT\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\UserAssist\{GUID}\Count

Take a look at the below screenshot from Registry Explorer and answer Question #1.

Program Name	Run Counter	Persist Count	Persist Time	Last Executed
USER_ASSIST_COUNTER	0	0	0	0
[Common Programs]\Accessories\Shopping Tool.exe	9	0	0	2021-11-25 03:14:34
USER_ASSIST_COUNTER	54	0	0	0
[Common Programs]\Accessories\Paint.exe	7	0	0	2021-11-25 03:14:34
[Programs]\Accessories\Wordpad.exe	6	0	0	2021-11-25 03:14:34
UserAssist\{GUID}\Count	25	0	0	2021-11-25 03:14:34
[Programs]\Utilities\PowerShell\Windows PowerShell.exe	4	0	0	2021-11-25 03:14:34
UserAssist\{GUID}\Count	2	0	0	2021-11-25 03:14:34
[Common Programs]\Accessories\Remote Desktop Connection.exe	1	0	0	2021-11-25 03:14:34
UserAssist\{GUID}\Count	1	0	0	2021-11-25 04:10:02
[Common Programs]\Accessories\Wordpad.exe	1	0	0	2021-11-25 04:10:02

b. What is another name for ShimCache?

- **AppCompatCache**

c. Which of the artifacts also saves SHA1 hashes of the executed programs?

- **AmCache**

d. Which of the artifacts saves the full path of the executed programs?

- **BAM/DAM**

## External Devices/USB device forensics

a. What is the serial number of the device from the manufacturer 'Kingston'?

- **1C6F654E59A3B0C179D366AE&0**

b. What is the name of this device?

- **Kingston Data Traveler 2.0 USB Device**

Course: Cyber Security Analyst x TryHackMe | Windows Forensic: x WINDOWS FORENSICS 1 - Go x +

tryhackme.com/r/room/windowsforensics1

Crackmes Gmail YouTube Maps Web

TryHackMe Dashboard Learn Compete Other

Access Machines Go Premium 0

SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Enum\USBSTOR

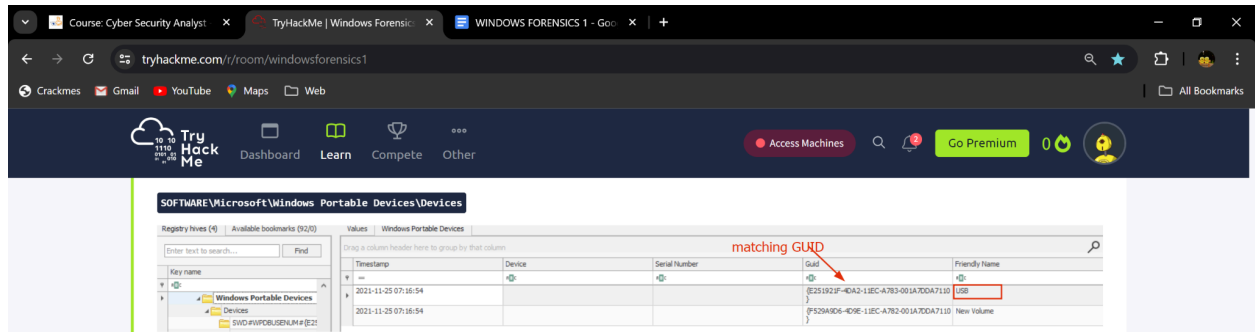
SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Enum\USB

Registry Explorer shows this information in a nice and easy-to-understand way. Take a look at this and answer Questions # 1 and 2.

Timestamp	Manufacturer	Title	Version	Disk Id	Serial Number	Device Name	Installed	First Installed	Last Connected	Last Removed
2021-11-24 18:25	Ver_Kingston	Prod_DataTraveler 2.0	Rev_PPAP	{6253022F-6B03-11 E0-8B56-000779564680}	17953664E59A3B0C179D366AE&0	Kingston DataTraveler 2.0 USB Device	2021-11-24 18:25	2021-11-24 18:25	2021-11-24 18:40	
2021-11-24 18:27	Ver_USB3.0	Prod_Internal_Device	Rev_SCH1	{77953664E59A3B0C179D3664E59A3B0C179D366AE&0}	17953664E59A3B0C179D366AE&0	USB 3.0 Internal Device	2021-11-24 18:27	2021-11-24 18:27	2021-11-24 18:27	

c. What is the friendly name of the device from the manufacturer 'Kingston'?

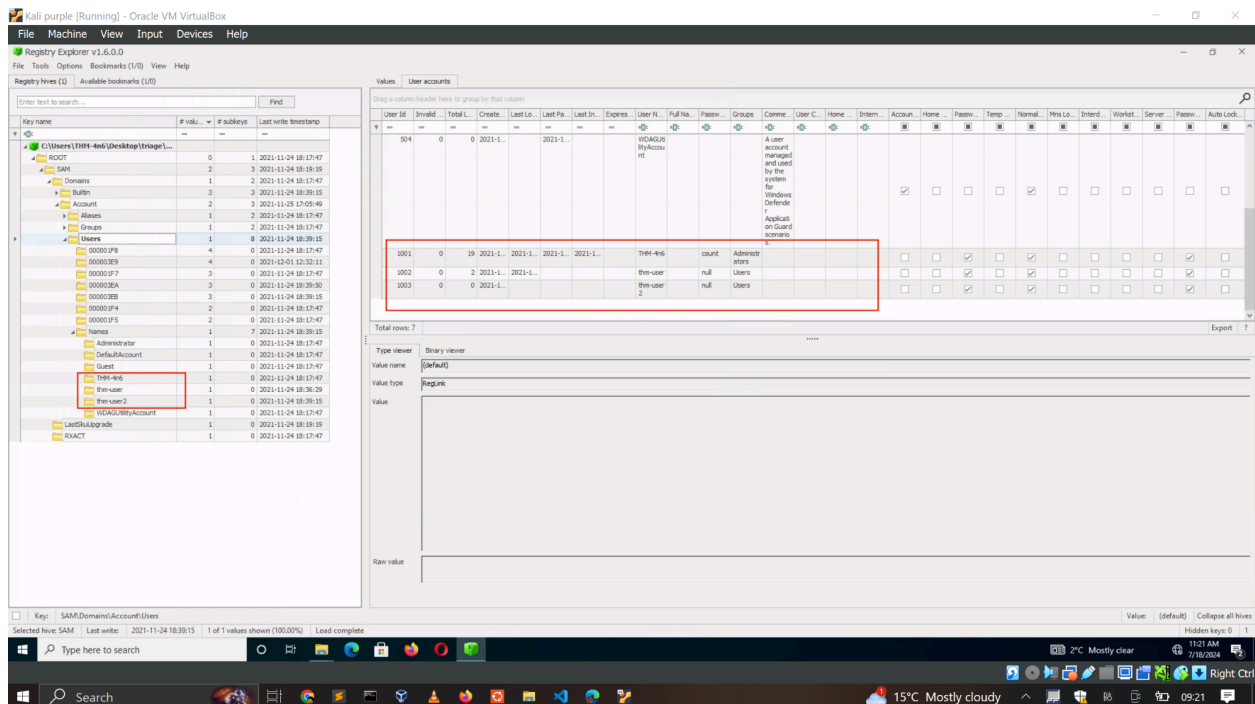
## • USB



## Hands-on Challenge

a. How many user created accounts are present on the system?

• 3



b. What is the username of the account that has never been logged in?

• thm-user2



Registry Explorer v1.6.0.0

File Tools Options Bookmarks (1/0) View Help

Registry hives (0) Available bookmarks (1/0)

Enter text to search...

Key name # vals # subkeys Last write timestamp

Users

User	Invalid	Tot	Created On	Last Login Time	Last P	Last L	Expires	User	Full N	Pass	Groups	Comm	User	Home	Inter	Accou	Home	Pass	Temp	Norm	Msi L	Inter	Work	Seve	Pass	Auto Locked
1001	0	19	2021-11-24 18:17:47	2021-12-01 12:32:11	2021-	2021-		THM-4n6	count	Administrators																
1002	0	2	2021-11-24 18:17:47	2021-11-24 18:17:47				THM-user	THM-user	Users																
1003	0	0	2021-11-24 18:17:47					THM-user	THM-user	Users																

last login time is empty meaning the user never logged in

c. What's the password hint for the user THM-4n6?

● count

Registry Explorer v1.6.0.0

File Tools Options Bookmarks (1/0) View Help

Registry hives (0) Available bookmarks (1/0)

Enter text to search...

Key name # vals # subkeys Last write timestamp

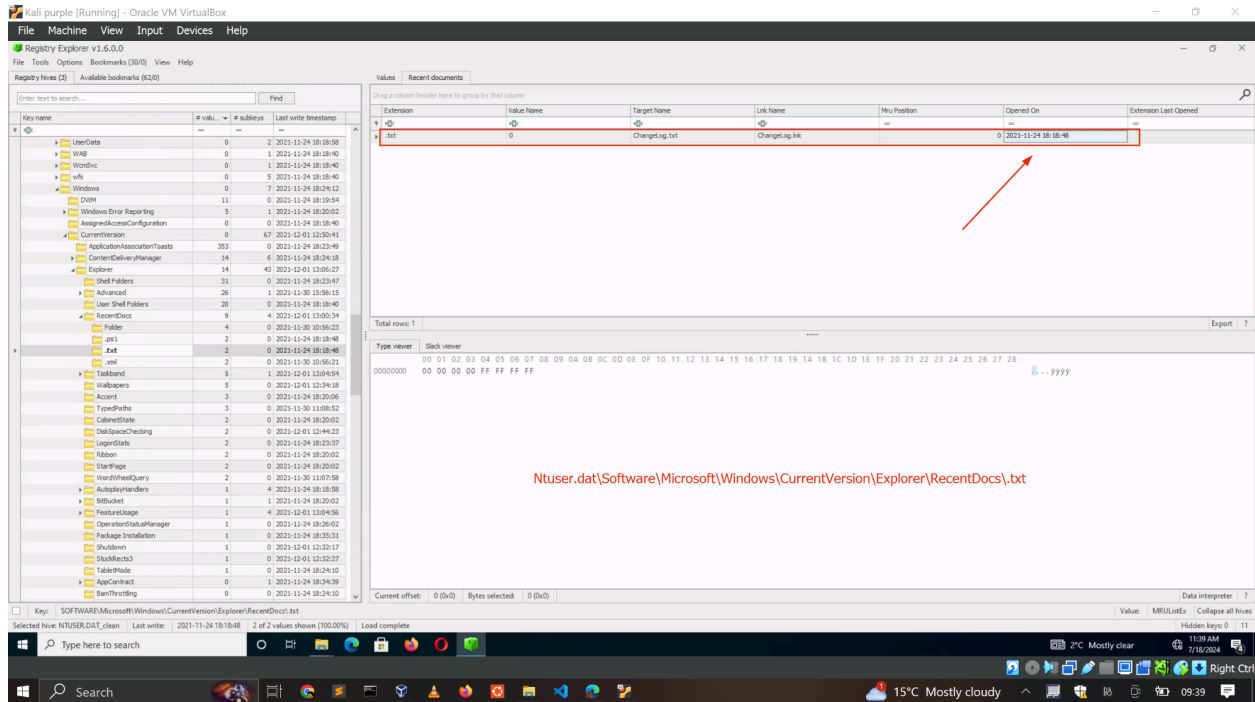
Users

User	Invalid	Tot	Created On	Last Login Time	Last P	Last L	Expires	User	Full N	Pass	Groups	Comm	User	Home	Inter	Accou	Home	Pass	Temp	Norm	Msi L	Inter	Work	Seve	Pass	Auto Locked
1001	0	19	2021-11-24 18:17:47	2021-12-01 12:32:11	2021-	2021-		THM-4n6	count	Administrators																
1002	0	2	2021-11-24 18:17:47	2021-11-24 18:17:47				THM-user	THM-user	Users																
1003	0	0	2021-11-24 18:17:47					THM-user	THM-user	Users																

last login time is empty meaning the user never logged in

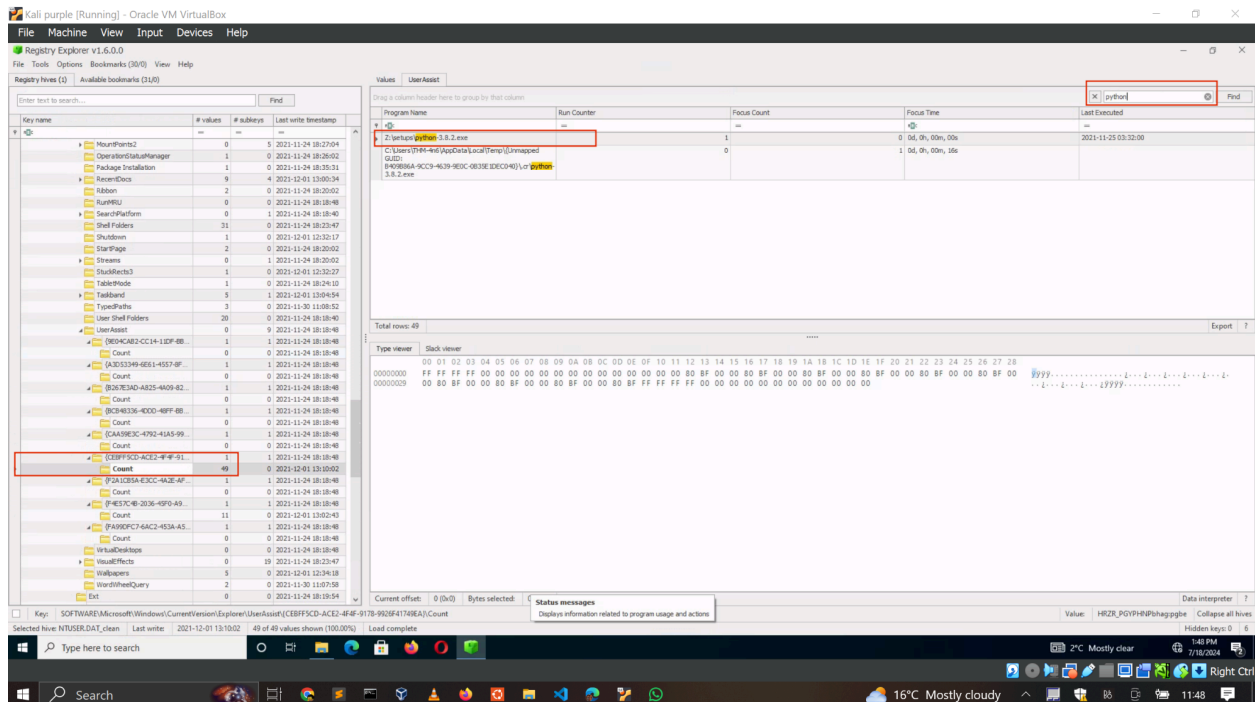
d. When was the file 'Changelog.txt' accessed?

● 2021-11-21 18:18:48



e. What is the complete path from where the python 3.8.2 installer was run?

- **Z:\setups\python-3.8.2.exe**



f. When was the USB device with the friendly name 'USB' last connected?

- We start by looking at the USB with the said friendly name from  
SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows Portable Devices\Devices
- Then we match the GUID to the devices in  
SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Enum\USBSTOR
- 2021-11-24 18:40:06

Kali purple [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox

Registry Explorer v1.6.0.0

File Tools Options Bookmarks (31/0) View Help

Registry Hives (5) Available bookmarks (0/0)

Enter text to search...

Find

Key name # valu. # subkeys Last write timestamp

Virtual Machine 0 1 2019-12-07 09:15:13

VisualStudio 0 1 2021-11-25 07:16:43

WAB 0 6 2019-12-07 09:15:13

Wabst 0 0 2019-12-07 09:15:13

WIMMount 0 1 2021-11-24 18:19:01

Windows 0 22 2021-05-05 12:57:35

Windows Defender Security Center 0 9 2019-12-07 09:15:12

Windows Defender 0 2 2021-05-05 12:57:35

Windows Media Foundation 0 39 2019-12-07 09:15:13

Windows Media Player HES 0 1 2019-12-07 09:15:12

Windows Messaging Subsystem 0 1 2019-12-07 09:15:12

Windows NT 0 1 2019-12-07 09:15:12

Windows Performance Toolkit 0 1 2021-11-25 07:16:34

Windows Photo Viewer 0 1 2019-12-07 09:15:13

Windows Portable Devices 0 2 2021-11-25 07:16:34

Devices 0 2 2021-11-25 07:16:34

SWHWPBOLBENLUMF@25192F-4D... 1 0 2021-11-25 07:16:34

SWHWPBOLBENLUMF@5284D6-4D... 1 0 2021-11-25 07:16:34

Forwarding 0 60 2019-12-07 09:15:13

Windows Script Host 0 1 2019-12-07 09:15:11

WindowsSelfHost 0 6 2021-11-24 18:24:30

Values Windows Portable Devices

Drop a column header here to group by that column

Timestamp	Device	Serial Number	Guid	Friendly Name
2021-11-25 07:16:34			{25192F-4D43-11E8-4763-001A70DA7110}	USB
2021-11-25 07:16:34			{5284D6-4D6E-11E8-4763-001A70DA7110}	New Volume

Total rows: 2

Type viewer

Kali purple [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox

Registry Explorer v1.6.0.0

File Tools Options Bookmarks (30/0) View Help

Registry Hives (5) Available bookmarks (0/0)

Enter text to search...

Find

Key name # valu. # subkeys Last write timestamp

C:\Users\THH-461\Desktop\image\C\Wind... 0 1 2021-11-24 18:17:47

C:\Users\THH-461\Desktop\SYSTEM\_clean 0 1 2021-11-24 18:17:47

Unrecognized default values 19 0

ROOT 0 17 2021-12-01 12:31:48

Setup 21 19 2021-11-30 13:54:13

DriverDatabase 6 4 2021-11-25 12:54:03

MountedDevices 5 0 2021-11-24 18:40:06

Select 4 0 2019-12-07 09:15:07

HardwareConfig 2 4 2021-12-01 12:31:48

RMG 2 0 2021-12-01 12:31:48

ActivationBroker 0 1 2019-12-07 09:15:08

ControlSet001 0 5 2019-12-07 09:15:07

Device 21 21 2021-11-30 10:46:05

ACPI 0 21 2021-11-30 10:46:05

ACPI\_HAL 0 1 2021-11-24 18:17:40

BTM 0 3 2021-11-24 18:17:47

CDROM 0 1 2021-11-24 18:17:47

HDALDO 0 1 2021-11-24 18:17:45

HD 0 2 2021-11-24 18:17:44

HYPER 0 1 2021-11-24 18:17:40

IDE 0 1 2021-11-25 17:05:06

PCI 0 20 2021-11-25 17:05:03

PCIDE 0 1 2021-11-24 18:17:43

ROOT 0 19 2021-11-24 18:17:46

SCSI 0 3 2021-11-30 10:44:08

STORAGE 0 1 2021-11-24 18:17:44

SWD 0 9 2021-11-30 10:46:17

TSMPHUT\_BUG 0 1 2021-11-30 10:46:46

TS\_USB\_HUB\_Enumerator 0 1 2021-11-24 18:23:23

UMB 0 1 2021-11-24 18:23:22

USB 0 80 2021-11-24 18:27:01

USBSTOR 0 2 2021-11-24 18:27:02

DiskIntern\_Kington@Prod\_DataTravel... 0 1 2021-11-24 18:25:15

DiskIntern\_USB3.0@Prod\_External\_De... 0 1 2021-11-24 18:27:02

VENUS 0 3 2021-11-25 17:05:03

VENUSP 0 1 2021-11-25 17:05:27

Control 11 124 2021-12-01 12:31:56

Values USBSTOR

Drop a column header here to group by that column

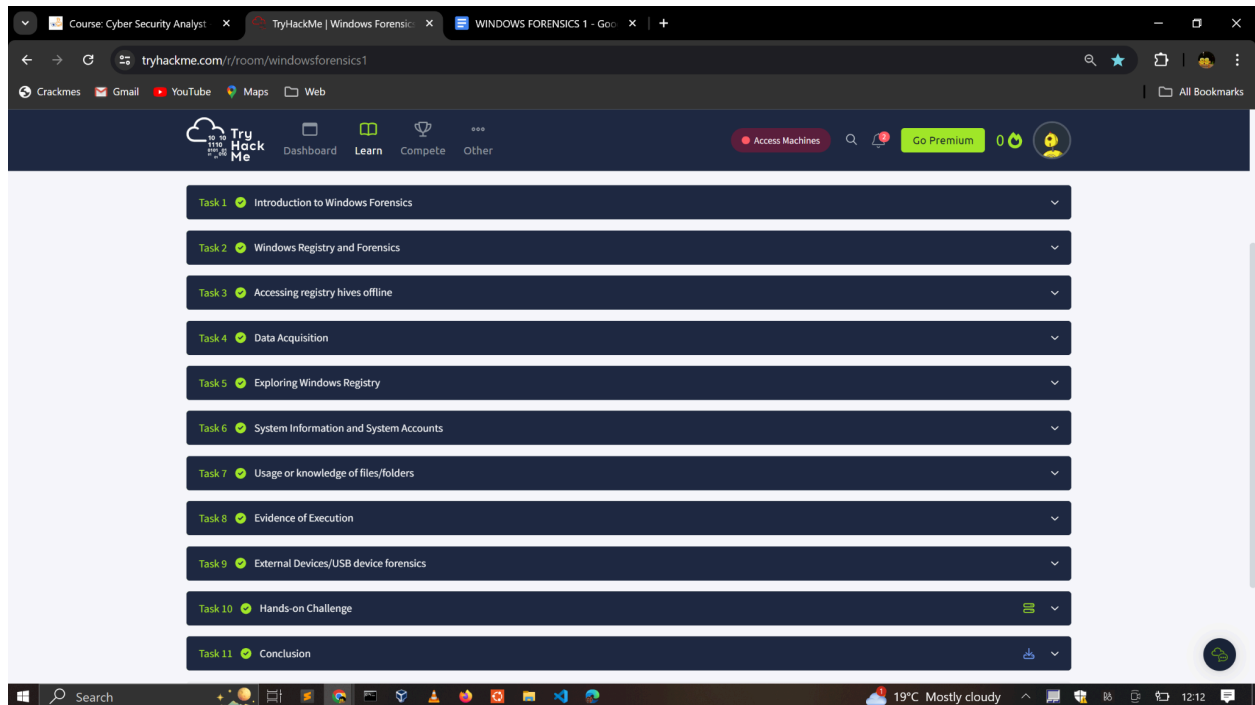
Timestamp	Manufacturer	Title	Version	Disk ID	Serial Number	Device Name	Installed	First Installed	Last Connected	Last Removed
2021-11-24 18:25:15	Ver_Kington	Prod_DataTraveler_2.0	Rev_PHAP	{8C5132F-46a2-11ec-8785-001A70DA7110}	1C8F6C4E59A-B0C179D-564630	Kington DataTraveler 2.0 USB Device	2021-11-24 18:25:15	2021-11-24 18:25:15	2021-11-24 18:40:06	
2021-11-24 18:27:02	Ver_USB3.0	Prod_External_Device	Rev_SCM1	{F526945-4ffe-11ec-8785-001A70DA7110}	0123456789ABCDEF0	USB3.0 External Device USB Device	2021-11-24 18:27:02	2021-11-24 18:27:02	2021-11-24 18:27:02	

Total rows: 2

Type viewer

### 3. MODULE COMPLETION

<https://tryhackme.com/p/c1ph3rbnuk>



### 4. CONCLUSION

This assignment has taught me how to perform registry forensics with tools like the Zimmerman Registry explorer. I have learned how to extract artefacts like programs set to run on startup, mounted devices, and user accounts from various registry keys and their values. As a security analyst this knowledge will help me gather more evidence of an attack when performing a digital forensic investigation.