



# SANS

[www.sans.org](http://www.sans.org)

**FORENSICS 518**

MAC FORENSIC

ANALYSIS

# 518.1

## Mac Essentials and the HFS+ File System

*The right security training for your staff, at the right time, in the right location.*

Copyright © 2015, The SANS Institute. All rights reserved. The entire contents of this publication are the property of the SANS Institute.

#### IMPORTANT-READ CAREFULLY:

This Courseware License Agreement ("CLA") is a legal agreement between you (either an individual or a single entity; henceforth User) and the SANS Institute for the personal, non-transferable use of this courseware. User agrees that the CLA is the complete and exclusive statement of agreement between The SANS Institute and you and that this CLA supersedes any oral or written proposal, agreement or other communication relating to the subject matter of this CLA. If any provision of this CLA is declared unenforceable in any jurisdiction, then such provision shall be deemed to be severable from this CLA and shall not affect the remainder thereof. An amendment or addendum to this CLA may accompany this courseware. **BY ACCEPTING THIS COURSEWARE YOU AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THE TERMS OF THIS CLA. IF YOU DO NOT AGREE YOU MAY RETURN IT TO THE SANS INSTITUTE FOR A FULL REFUND, IF APPLICABLE.** The SANS Institute hereby grants User a non-exclusive license to use the material contained in this courseware subject to the terms of this agreement. User may not copy, reproduce, re-publish, distribute, display, modify or create derivative works based upon all or any portion of this publication in any medium whether printed, electronic or otherwise, for any purpose without the express written consent of the SANS Institute. Additionally, user may not sell, rent, lease, trade, or otherwise transfer the courseware in any way, shape, or form without the express written consent of the SANS Institute.

The SANS Institute reserves the right to terminate the above lease at any time. Upon termination of the lease, user is obligated to return all materials covered by the lease within a reasonable amount of time.

SANS acknowledges that any and all software and/or tools presented in this courseware are the sole property of their respective trademark/registered/copyright owners.

AirDrop, AirPort, AirPort Time Capsule, Apple, Apple Remote Desktop, Apple TV, App Nap, Back to My Mac, Boot Camp, Cocoa, FaceTime, FileVault, Finder, FireWire, FireWire logo, iCal, iChat, iLife, iMac, iMessage, iPad, iPad Air, iPad Mini, iPhone, iPhoto, iPod, iPod classic, iPod shuffle, iPod nano, iPod touch, iTunes, iTunes logo, iWork, Keychain, Keynote, Mac, Mac Logo, MacBook, MacBook Air, MacBook Pro, Macintosh, Mac OS, Mac Pro, Numbers, OS X, Pages, Passbook, Retina, Safari, Siri, Spaces, Spotlight, There's an app for that, Time Capsule, Time Machine, Touch ID, Xcode, Xserve, App Store, and iCloud are registered trademarks of Apple Inc.



---

# FOR518 - Section 1

## Mac Essentials & the HFS+ File System

---



The **SANS** Institute



Sarah Edwards  
oompa@csh.rit.edu  
@iamevltwin



@sansforensics

<http://computer-forensics.sans.org>

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Author: Sarah Edwards

[oompa@csh.rit.edu](mailto:oompa@csh.rit.edu)

<http://twitter.com/iamevltwin>

<http://twitter.com/sansforensics>



# SANS DFIR

DIGITAL FORENSICS & INCIDENT RESPONSE

**Website**

[digital-forensics.sans.org](http://digital-forensics.sans.org)

**SIFT Workstation**

[dfir.to/SANS-SIFT](http://dfir.to/SANS-SIFT)

**Join The SANS DFIR Community**

 **Blog:** [dfir.to/DFIRBlog](http://dfir.to/DFIRBlog)

 **Twitter:** [@sansforensics](https://twitter.com/sansforensics)

 **Facebook:** [sansforensics](https://www.facebook.com/sansforensics)

 **Google+:** [gplus.to/sansforensics](https://plus.google.com/sansforensics)

 **Mailing list:** [dfir.to/MAIL-LIST](mailto:dfir.to/MAIL-LIST)

 **YouTube:** [dfir.to/DFIRCast](http://dfir.to/DFIRCast)

## DFIR CURRICULUM

CORE

 <p><b>FOR408</b> Windows Forensics GCPE</p>	 <p><b>SEC504</b> Hacker Techniques, Exploits, and Incident Handling GCIH</p>
---	--

IN-DEPTH INCIDENT RESPONSE

 <p><b>FOR508</b> Advanced Incident Response GCFA</p>	 <p><b>FOR572</b> Advanced Network Forensics and Analysis GNFA</p>	 <p><b>FOR610</b> REM: Malware Analysis GREM</p>
--	---	---

SPECIALIZATION

 <p><b>FOR518</b> Mac Forensics</p>	 <p><b>FOR526</b> Memory Forensics in-Depth</p>	 <p><b>FOR585</b> Advanced Smartphone Forensics</p>
 <p><b>MGT535</b> Incident Response Team Management</p>		

This page intentionally left blank.



# SANS DFIR

## DIGITAL FORENSICS & INCIDENT RESPONSE

### DFIR CURRICULUM

#### CORE



**FOR408**  
Windows  
Forensics  
GCFE



**SEC504**  
Hacker Techniques,  
Exploits, and  
Incident Handling  
GCIH

#### Website

[digital-forensics.sans.org](http://digital-forensics.sans.org)

#### SIFT Workstation

[dfir.to/SANS-SIFT](http://dfir.to/SANS-SIFT)

#### Join The SANS DFIR Community



**Blog:** [dfir.to/DFIRBlog](http://dfir.to/DFIRBlog)



**Twitter:** @sansforensics



**Facebook:** sansforensics



**Google+:** [gplus.to/sansforensics](http://gplus.to/sansforensics)



**Mailing list:** [dfir.to/MAIL-LIST](http://dfir.to/MAIL-LIST)



**YouTube:** [dfir.to/DFIRCast](http://dfir.to/DFIRCast)

#### IN-DEPTH INCIDENT RESPONSE



**FOR508**  
Advanced Incident  
Response  
GCFA



**FOR572**  
Advanced  
Network Forensics  
and Analysis  
GNFA

LEARN  
**REM**

**FOR610**  
REM:  
Malware Analysis  
GREM

#### SPECIALIZATION



**FOR518**  
Mac  
Forensics



**FOR526**  
Memory  
Forensics  
In-Depth



**MGT535**  
Incident  
Response Team  
Management



**FOR585**  
Advanced  
Smartphone  
Forensics



---

## Exercise 1.0 – Exercise Setup

---

WELCOME to FOR518 - Mac Forensic Analysis!  
Students, please start this exercise before class.

Please let your instructor know if you had issues with the  
pre-class setup (Exercise 0) or this exercise (1.0).

This page intentionally left blank.

# Course Agenda

---

Section 1 – Mac Essentials & the HFS+ File System

Section 2 – User Domain File Analysis

Section 3 – System & Local Domain File Analysis

Section 4 – Advanced Analysis Topics

Section 5 – iOS Analysis

Section 6 – Mac Forensic Challenge

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

This page intentionally left blank.



---

# Mac Essentials & the HFS+ File System

---

The SANS Institute  
Sarah Edwards

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

This page intentionally left blank.

# Section 1 Agenda

---

Part 1 – Mac Fundamentals

Part 2 – Acquisition & Live Response

Part 3 – Disks & Partitions

Part 4 – HFS+ File System

Part 5 – Mounting Disk Images

Part 6 – BlackLight 101

© SANS  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

This page intentionally left blank.



---

# Section 1 - Part 1

## Mac Fundamentals

---

This page intentionally left blank.

# Apple & Mac History

---

- Apple Computer was established on April 1, 1976 in Cupertino, CA by:
  - Steve Jobs
  - Steve Wozniak
  - Ronald Wayne
- Apple I (\$666.66)
- First Macintosh released in 1984 (\$2,500)
- Mac OS X released in 2001



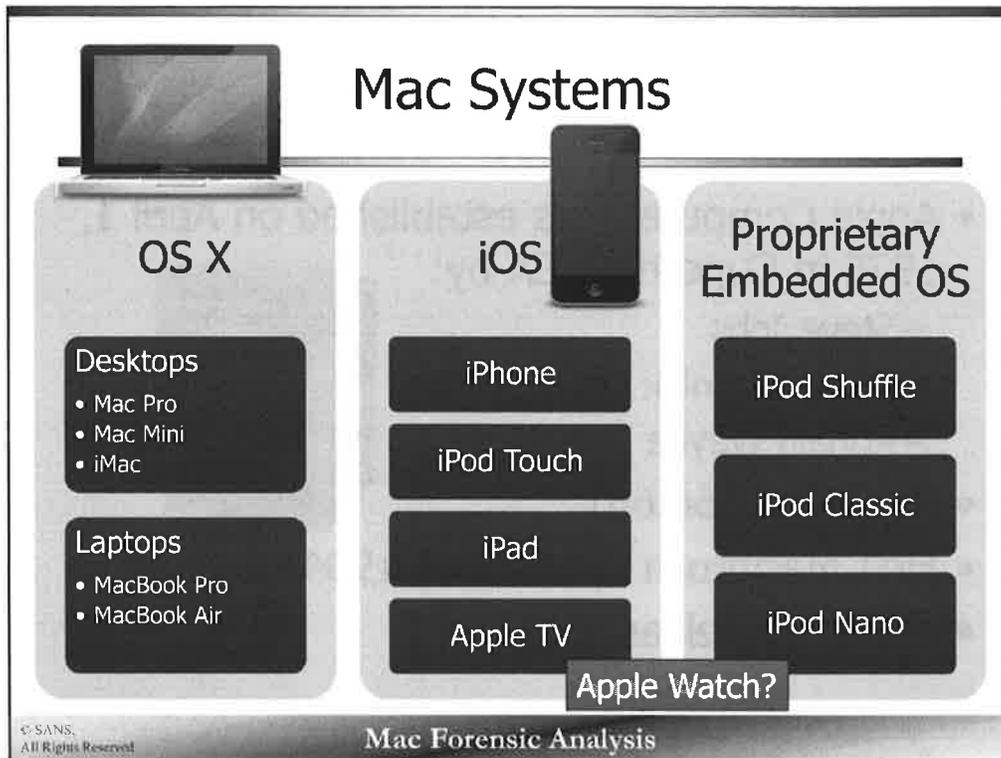
© SANS  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Apple Computer was established on April 1, 1976 (incorporated January 3, 1977) by Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak and Ronald Wayne.

The first computer they sold was the Apple I for \$666.66 in 1976. In 1984 the first Macintosh was introduced to the Super Bowl audience with the famous “1984” commercial. The Macintosh was touted as the first commercially successful personal computer with a graphical user interface. It was also \$2,500!

Macintosh computers use the Mac Operating System (Mac OS). The older Macs used the “Classic” Mac OS (System 1-9) while the newer Macs use Mac OS X (Ten). Mac OS X introduced a Unix-based operating system.

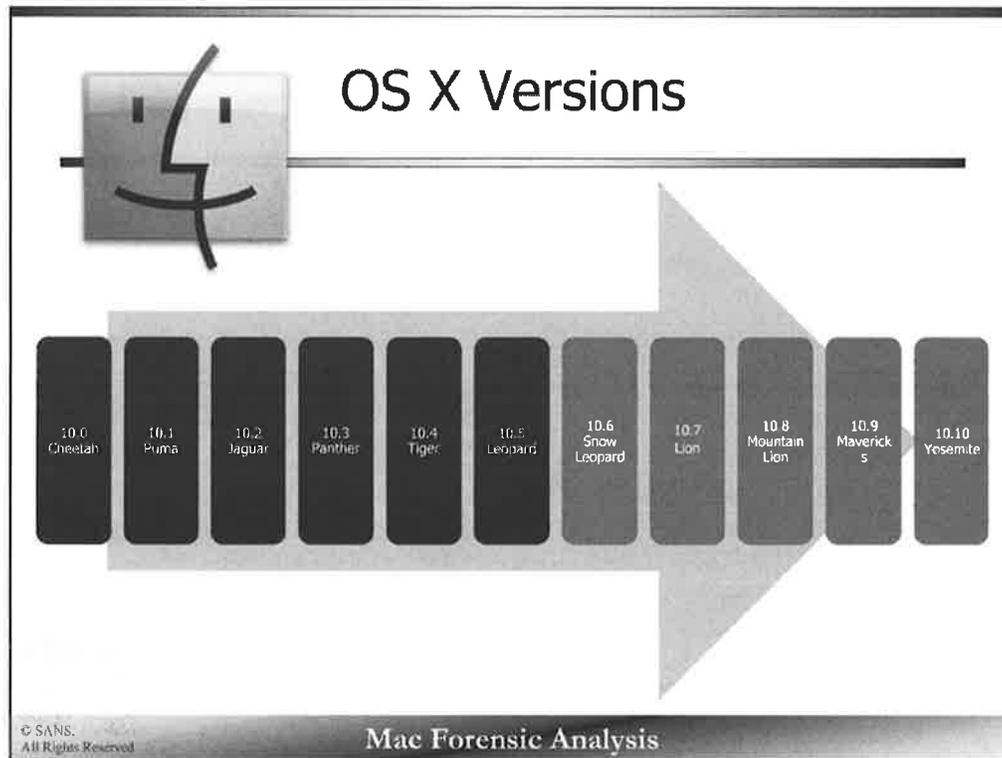


Modern Mac Systems are comprised of three types: OS X, iOS and a proprietary embedded operating system.

OS X is featured on the desktop and laptop product lines.

iOS is featured on mobile devices such as the iPhone, iPad and the Apple TV. iOS is based upon OS X, and could be considered OS X “lite”. It has many of the same characteristics and file system intricacies but does not contain all the software and features of OS X.

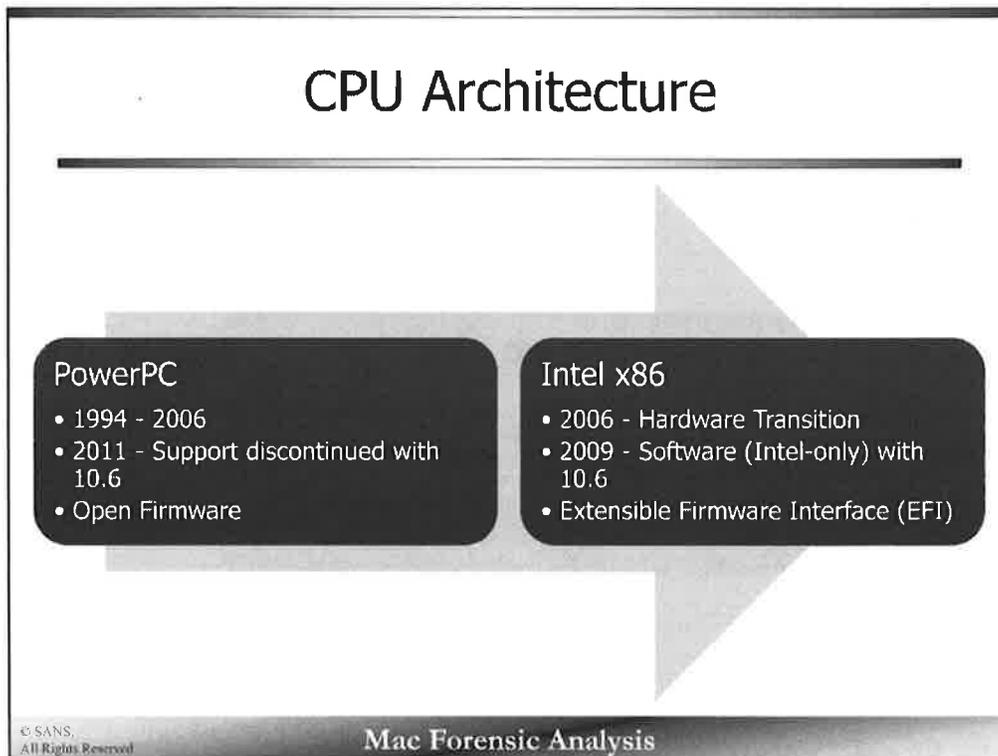
The iPod Shuffle, Nano, and Classic contain a proprietary embedded operating system.



There have been eleven versions of OS X, 10.0 – 10.10. The latest, Yosemite was released in October of 2014.

OS X introduced the Unix-based operating system with an easy-to-use GUI for the casual user.

This class will feature some items since 10.6, unless otherwise noted. Each version of the operating system changes slightly and can differ in various ways. Where appropriate the version of the operating system will be listed, but be aware that changes may vary and testing the various operating systems may help you with specific questions.

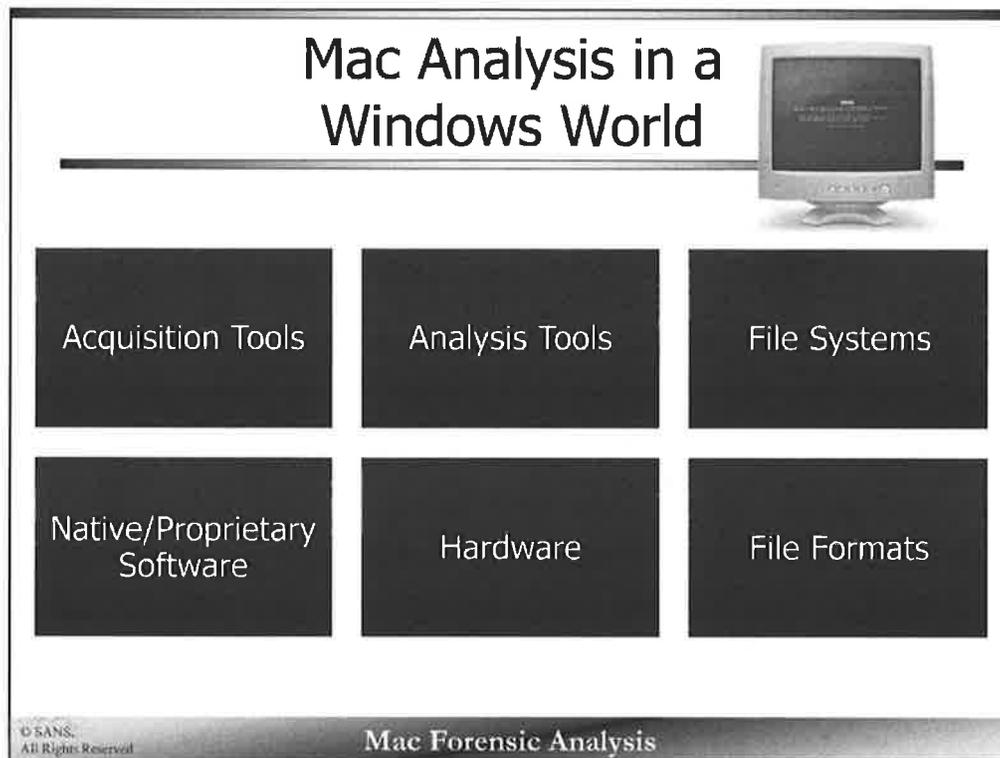


After the introduction of Unix core components to the operating system, Apple Computer made the transition from PowerPC to Intel x86 architecture.

PowerPC (Performance Optimization With Enhanced RISC – Performance Computing) was used from 1994 to 2006. PowerPC was no longer supported with OS X Snow Leopard (10.6). This architecture used the Open Firmware interface, similar to a PC’s BIOS. The last version of OS X that was PowerPC-only was OS X Panther (10.3). This interface was accessible using the CMD+Option+O+F.

The Intel x86 transition started in 2006. OS X Tiger (10.4) was the first available OS X version that one could use on x86 architecture. Intel-based Macs use the Extensible Firmware Interface (EFI), also similar to a PC’s BIOS.

Open Firmware and EFI interface between the hardware and the operating system to provide drivers and a pre-OS environment. EFI has additional advantages such as the ability to boot from USB, and larger disks.



The Windows platform is by far the most popular analysis platform in the digital forensics community.

Many of the tools used for acquisition are the same as those used in acquiring Windows systems. A hard drive is a hard drive. Live acquisitions, however, pose a different challenge, the same techniques can be used but tools specific to Mac OS X will be needed to acquire memory, create an image, and to gather volatile data.

Analysis tools may also be the same as those used for Windows systems (i.e.: Encase, FTK, X-Ways). Many of the most popular forensic analysis tools can be used with varying success depending on their Hierarchical File System Plus (HFS+) file system interpretation and Mac-specific file capabilities. Not all tools understand what a binary property list file is. The Mac OS, as with many operating systems, uses different software and file formats.

The HFS+ file system can bring up certain challenges to forensic tools and analysis techniques. For example, HFS+ cannot be read or written to natively on Windows systems, therefore mounting an HFS+ drive in Windows requires additional software or the use of a Mac.

# Timestamp Formats

HFS+ Dates or Mac OS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 32bit</li><li>• 1/1/1904 00:00:00 UTC</li><li>• Example: 3487322096 (0xCFDC4FF0)</li></ul>
Unix Epoch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 32bit</li><li>• 1/1/1970 00:00:00 UTC</li><li>• Example: 1404477296 (0x53B69F70)</li></ul>
Mac Epoch or Mac Absolute or Cocoa or Webkit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 32bit</li><li>• 1/1/2001 00:00:00 UTC</li><li>• Example: 426170096 (0x1966D6F0)</li></ul>

© SANS, All Right Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

You will encounter a variety of timestamps on a Mac system. While Unix epoch is relatively well known, the number of seconds from midnight on 1/1/1970, the HFS+ file system uses a different epoch date, midnight on 1/1/1904. Another epoch time, sometimes called Mac Absolute Time starts at midnight on 1/1/2001.

Throughout the class the various timestamps will be highlighted.

Convert timestamps using `date -ur <epochtime>`:

- Mac Epoch – add 978307200
- HFS+ Date – subtract 2082844800

For example:

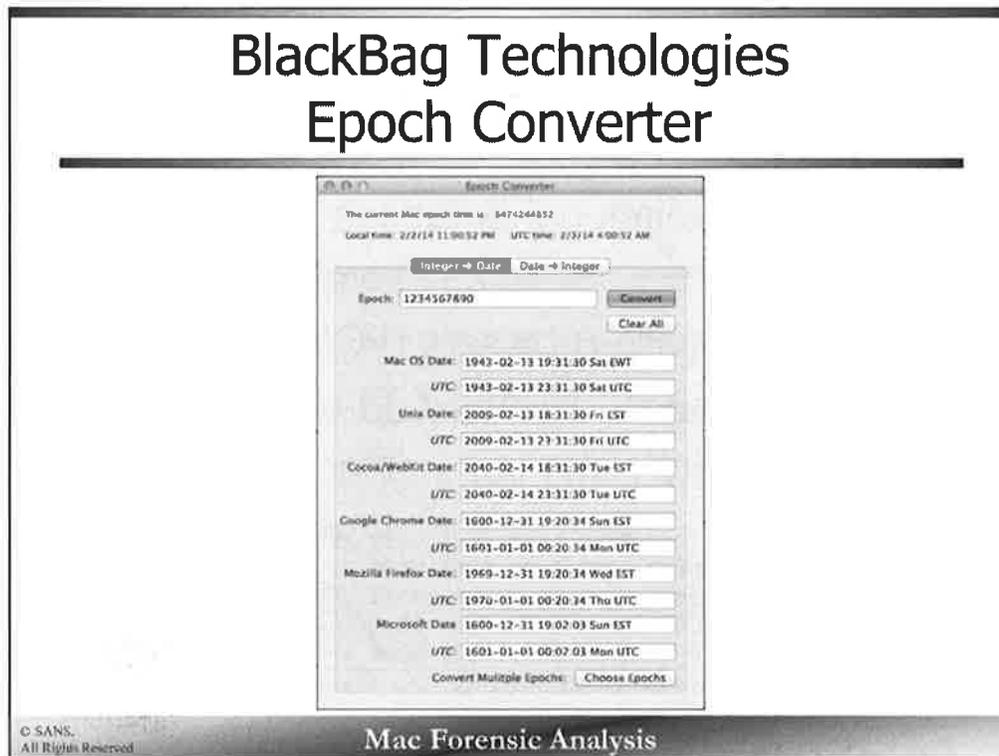
```
$ date -ur 1234567890
Fri Feb 13 23:31:30 UTC 2009
```

Reference:

Mac Developer Library – NSDate Class Reference

[[https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/#documentation/Cocoa/Reference/Foundation/Classes/nsdate\\_Class/Reference/Reference.html](https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/#documentation/Cocoa/Reference/Foundation/Classes/nsdate_Class/Reference/Reference.html)]

# BlackBag Technologies Epoch Converter



BlackBag Technologies has a wonderful GUI-based timestamp converter. It has the ability to convert from timestamp integer to date and vice versa.

This utility supports many timestamp formats in local system time and UTC:

- Mac OS (HFS+)
- Unix Epoch
- Cocoa/Webkit
- Google Chrome
- Mozilla Firefox
- Microsoft

This application is similar to Dcode by Digital Detective for Windows-based systems.

# SQLite Databases

- SQL-based relational database
- File Signature – “SQLite format 3”
- SQLite Database Browsers (PC/Mac)
- SQLite Manager - Firefox Add-on (PC/Mac)
- Command Line: `sqlite3` (Mac)

```
00000000: 5351 4c69 7465 2066 6f72 6d61 7420 3300 SQLite format 3.  
0000010: 1000 0101 0040 2020 0000 086f 0000 00b2 .....@ ...0....  
0000020: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0002 0000 0001 .....  
0000030: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0001 0000 0000 .....  
0000040: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

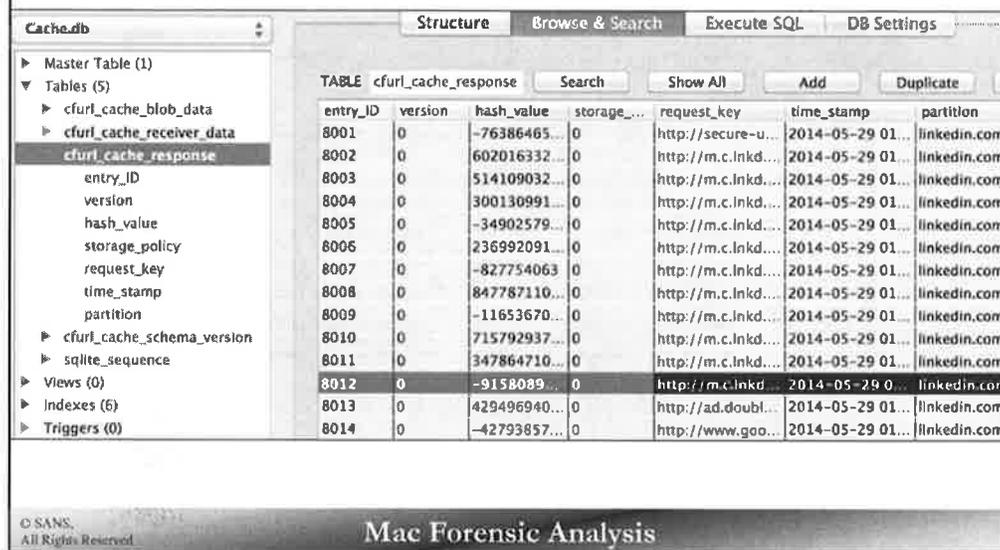
Software on Mac systems use SQLite databases to store various types of information such as settings and Internet histories. SQLite is a SQL-based relational database. These databases can have multiple tables with multiple types of keys and values.

In the screenshot above, the signature used for SQLite databases is “SQLite format 3”. An easy way to carve for these files would be to use that signature as a starting point.

SQLite files are non-system specific and can be viewed using different tools for Mac, Windows or Linux systems. You may want to use SQLite Database Browser. This application was recently updated and now handles newer SQLite files that it was not able to do before.

Another utility to use the Firefox Add-On “SQLite Manager”. This add-on can be used with any system that Firefox can be installed on. [<https://addons.mozilla.org/cn-US/firefox/addon/sqlite-manager/>]

# SQLite Database Firefox SQLite Manager Plugin



entry_ID	version	hash_value	storage_policy	request_key	time_stamp	partition
8001	0	-76386465...	0	http://secure-u...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8002	0	602016332...	0	http://m.c.lnk...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8003	0	514109032...	0	http://m.c.lnk...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8004	0	300130991...	0	http://m.c.lnk...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8005	0	-34902579...	0	http://m.c.lnk...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8006	0	236992091...	0	http://m.c.lnk...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8007	0	-827754063...	0	http://m.c.lnk...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8008	0	847787110...	0	http://m.c.lnk...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8009	0	-11653670...	0	http://m.c.lnk...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8010	0	715792937...	0	http://m.c.lnk...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8011	0	347864710...	0	http://m.c.lnk...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8012	0	-9158089...	0	http://m.c.lnk...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8013	0	429496940...	0	http://ad.doubl...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com
8014	0	-42793857...	0	http://www.goo...	2014-05-29 01...	linkedin.com

This is an example of the Safari Cache.db SQLite database. The screenshot shown is using the Firefox SQLite Manager Plugin.

On the left under “Tables” there are five tables shown:

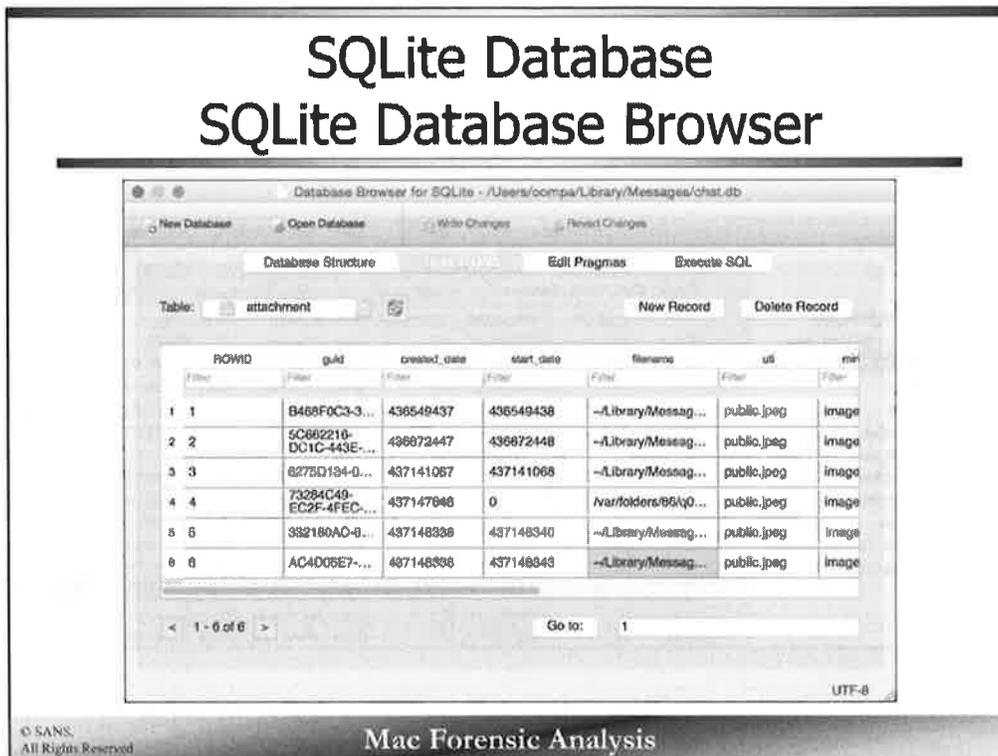
- cfurl\_cache\_blob\_data
- cfurl\_cache\_receiver\_data
- cfurl\_cache\_response
- cfurl\_cache\_schema\_version
- sqlite\_sequence

Each table is made up of row (or tuples) and columns.

In the example shown, this table has seven columns:

- entry\_ID
- version
- hash\_value
- storage\_policy
- request\_key
- time\_stamp
- partition

# SQLite Database SQLite Database Browser



This screenshot shows an example of SQLite Database Browser.

This is a standalone application that does not require a browser. Each analyst may have their own favorite SQLite database viewer, please choose what you prefer to use.



## Property List Files

- XML - File Signature – “<?xml version=”
- Binary - File Signature – “bplist00”
- Open on Mac – Xcode, plutil
- Open on PC – iBackupBot Plist Editor, Reaper

```
00000000: 3c3f 786d 6c20 7665 7273 696f 6e3d 2231 <?xml version="1
00000010: 2e30 2220 656e 636f 6469 6e67 3d22 5f34 .0" encoding="UT
00000020: 462d 3822 3f3e 0a3c 2144 4f43 5450 5045 F-8">.<!DOCTYPE
00000030: 2070 6c69 7374 2050 5542 4c49 4320 222d plist PUBLIC "-
```

```
00000000: 6270 6c69 7374 3030 d501 0203 0405 0601 bplist00.....
00000010: 0c0d 0c5f 1010 546f 6767 6c65 436f 6c74 ..._.ToggleCont
00000020: 726f 6c4b 6579 5f10 1c44 6f6e 7451 7569 rolKey_..DontQui
00000030: 7457 6865 6e4c 6173 7457 696e 646f 7743 tWhenLastWindowC
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Property list files usually contain configuration data, similar to the Windows registry. These files come in two formats, XML or binary. The older format, XML is human-readable and has the file signature of “<?xml version=”. The newer binary format is used as it is more efficient on disk space. This format has the file signature “bplist00” for binary plist.

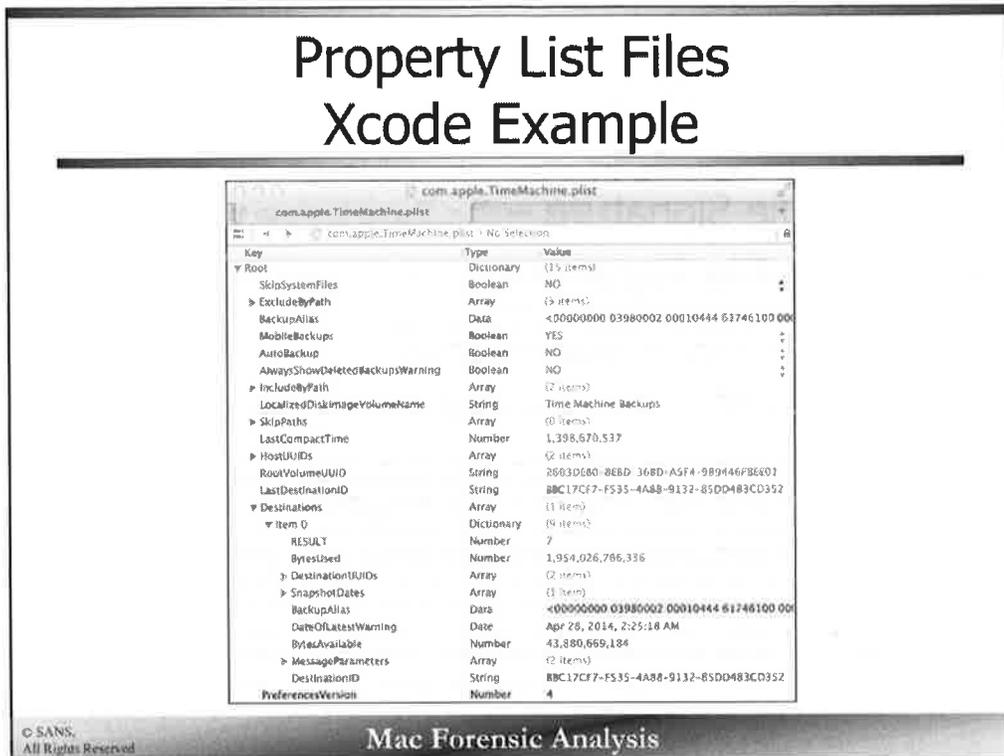
These files can be read using the Xcode or by the command-line tool `plutil`.

Xcode is not installed by default on Mac OS X, it can be installed by downloading it from Apple’s website or by using the Mac App Store. Older versions of Xcode had a utility named “Property List Editor” that reads property list files without the extraneous bulk of Xcode. Newer versions of Xcode include a property list editor; however, it may take a while to load the whole Xcode programming environment.

A command line tool, `plutil`, can be used to convert property list files into other formats such as binary to XML, or XML to JSON.

On windows systems, there is one tool that the author has found to parse the property list files, it doesn’t work nearly as well as the Mac tools but it works in a pinch. iBackupBot Plist Editor – [<http://www.icopybot.com/download.htm>] or Reaper (<http://insidethecore.com/reaper/reaper.html>)

# Property List Files Xcode Example



An example of a property list is shown in the screenshot above. This property list is being viewed with the internal Xcode plist viewer.

Each property list contains keys and values. Each value can have different data types such as:

- Boolean - On/Off, Yes/No, 0/1
- Array - Contains additional keys/values
- Data - Binary Data Blob, can be extracted and viewed in a hex editor
  - May contain embedded property lists
- Number
- String
- Date – Dates are shown in local host system time (make sure to check your time zones!)
- Dictionary – Contains additional keys/values (similar to Array)

# Property List Files

## plutil -p Example

```
word:Preferences stedwards$ plutil -p com.apple.TimeMachine.plist | less
{
  "SkipSystemFiles" => 0
  "ExcludeByPath" => [
    0 => "/Users/Shared/adi"
    1 => "/Users/Shared/adi"
    2 => "/Library/Application Support/Microsoft/PlayReady"
  ]
  "BackupAliases" => -00000000 03980002 00010444 61746100 00000000 00000000
0000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 0002c0ae Zd3e0000 00000000 0000f
0061000f 000a0004 00440061 00740061 00120000 0013000f 2f566f6c 756d6573 2
0000 00000000 00000044 656c6f72 65616e00 00000000 00000000 00000000 00
00005f 6f6d7061 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00
000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 000000
000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00
00 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 0000
0000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 0000
}
  "MobileBackups" => 0
  "AutoBackup" => 0
  "AlwaysShowDeletedBackupsWarning" => 0
  "IncludeByPath" => [
    0 => "/Applications"
    1 => "/Library"
    2 => "/System"
    3 => "/bin"
    4 => "/private"
    5 => "/sbin"
    6 => "/usr"
  ]
}
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

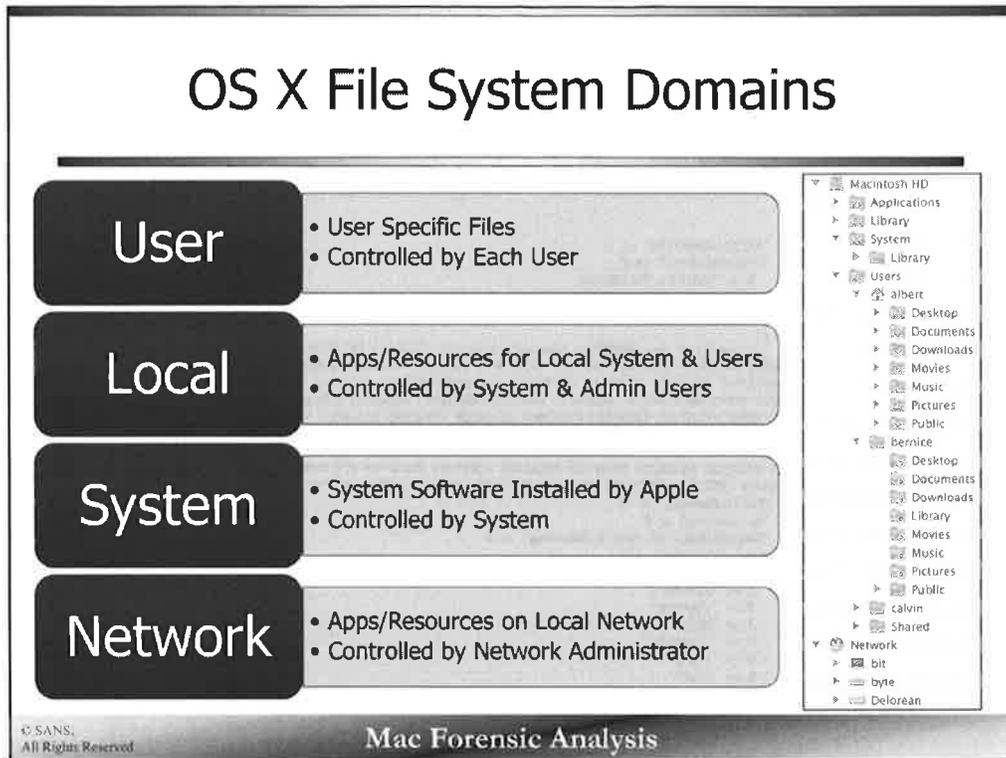
Mac Forensic Analysis

You can also view property lists on the command line using the OS X native tool, `plutil`. Use the `-p` parameter to “print” the property list. The default print view is JSON formatted.

You can also use `plutil` to convert property lists from binary to XML.

Reference:

[plutil Man Page](#)



The Mac OS X file system is made up of four domains; user, local, system, and network.

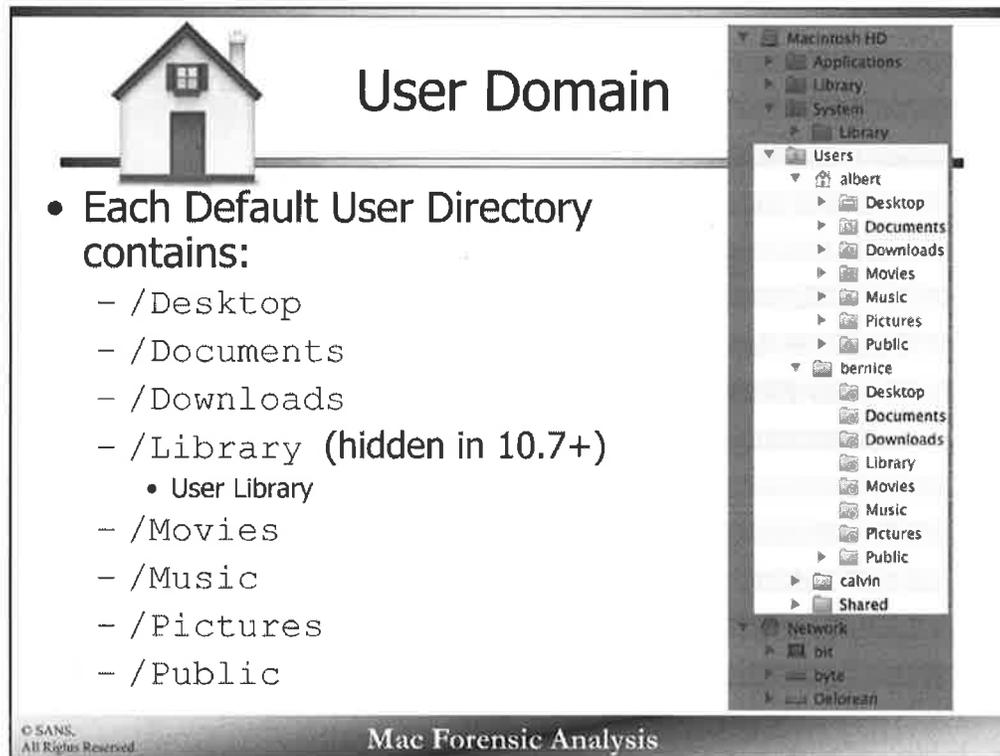
Each domain has a purpose, they may contain user files, system resources, or network data. The domains are used to separate files based on their usage. The breakdown of the domains helps implement access controls so a file is not intentionally or unintentionally modified to keep the system secure and functional.

In the following slides, each domain section will be highlighted to show where in the logical file system the files are located.

Reference:

File System Programming Guide – File System Basics

[<https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/DOCUMENTATION/FileManagement/Conceptual/FileSystemProgrammingGuide/FileSystemOverview/FileSystemOverview.html>]



The User Domain consists of all the user files. Their documents, pictures, music, etc.

Each user has their own home directory in the /Users/ folder, marked by a house icon in the screenshot above. If a user is logged on, default permissions will not allow them to view the files in another user's directory noted by the red circle with the line icon.

Most of the directories are self-explanatory in terms of information they may contain. The public folder may contain data the user wants to share with other users. The user's Library directory contains app-specific data.

This domain may also contain "Sites" directory if web sharing is enabled; this would contain the user's personal web site.

Starting with Mac OS X Lion, the user's Library folder was hidden. Some users may prefer to be able to view the files easily. The author finds that it helps forensic research to have the Library directory be viewable. The command to permanently change this for a specific account is below. It may also be accessed by holding down the "option" key when accessing it via the 'Go' menu in the Finder Toolbar.

```
chflags nohidden /Users/<username>/Library
```

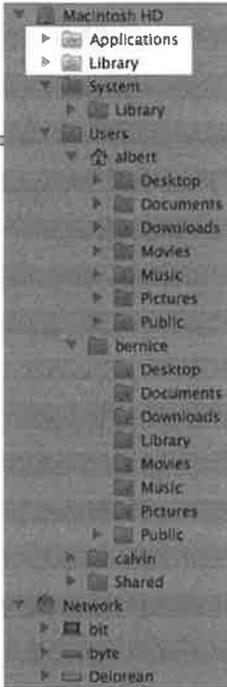
Reference:

File System Programming Guide – File System Basics

[<https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/DOCUMENTATION/FileManagement/Conceptual/FileSystemProgrammingGuide/FileSystemOverview/FileSystemOverview.html>]

# Local Domain

- /Applications
  - Contains applications for all users
- /Library
  - Local Library - Contains application specific data
- /Developer
  - ...or /Library/Developer
  - ...or /Applications/Xcode.app/...



© SANS. All Right Reserved. Mac Forensic Analysis

The local domain consists of the applications folder, the (local) Library directory, and if installed, the Developer directory. This domain is used to store the files that may be shared amongst the users, such as applications.

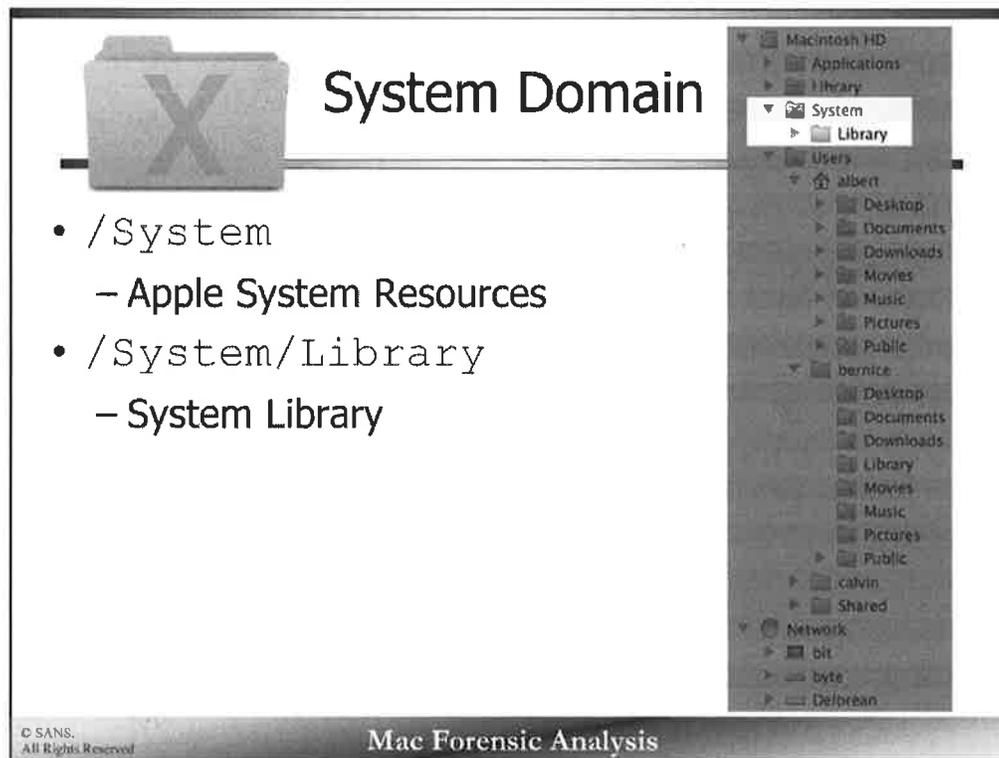
The /Applications directory contains the applications available to all users of the system. It is not necessary to run an application from the /Applications directory, it may be run from a user directory if needed. Applications from the Mac App Store are installed in the /Applications directory.

The /Developer directory is created when Xcode is installed. The Developer directory may be located in either the root (/), under /Library or embedded in the Xcode.app application in the /Applications directory. The Developer folder contains Apple Developer (Mac, iOS,) related data and resources.

Reference:

File System Programming Guide – File System Basics

[<https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/DOCUMENTATION/FileManagement/Conceptual/FileSystemProgrammingGuide/FileSystemOverview/FileSystemOverview.html>]



The System Domain is used to store Apple specific system software.

The System Domain contains the System Library directory which contains files associated with Apple system resources.

The primary files we will be looking at in this domain are system preferences and data files.

You may have noticed a common theme in the directory structure. There are three Library directories on Mac OS X, each with its own purpose. It is easy to get confused about which Library directory contains what data, this class will discuss the difference between each Library directory and the contents located within.

- User Library - /Users/<username>/Library/
- Local Library - /Library/
- System Library - /System/Library/

Reference:

File System Programming Guide – File System Basics

[<https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/DOCUMENTATION/FileManagement/Conceptual/FileSystemProgrammingGuide/FileSystemOverview/FileSystemOverview.html>]

File System Program Guide – OS X Library Directory Details

[[https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/DOCUMENTATION/FileManagement/Conceptual/FileSystemProgrammingGuide/MacOSXDirectories/MacOSXDirectories.html#apple\\_ref/doc/uid/TP40010672-CH10-SW1](https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/DOCUMENTATION/FileManagement/Conceptual/FileSystemProgrammingGuide/MacOSXDirectories/MacOSXDirectories.html#apple_ref/doc/uid/TP40010672-CH10-SW1)]



# Network Domain

- Mac Computers
- PC Computers
- Time Capsules
- File Shares
- Network Attached Storage
- Etc.



© SANS. All Rights Reserved. Mac Forensic Analysis

The Network Domain contains the network resources such as network area storage, Time Capsules, and other systems on the network.

Reference:

File System Programming Guide – File System Basics

[<https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/DOCUMENTATION/FileManagement/Conceptual/FileSystemProgrammingGuide/FileSystemOverview/FileSystemOverview.html>]

# Agenda

---

Part 1 – Mac Fundamentals

Part 2 – Acquisition & Live Response

Part 3 – Disks & Partitions

Part 4 – HFS+ File System

Part 5 – Mounting Disk Images

Part 6 – BlackLight 101

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

This page intentionally left blank.



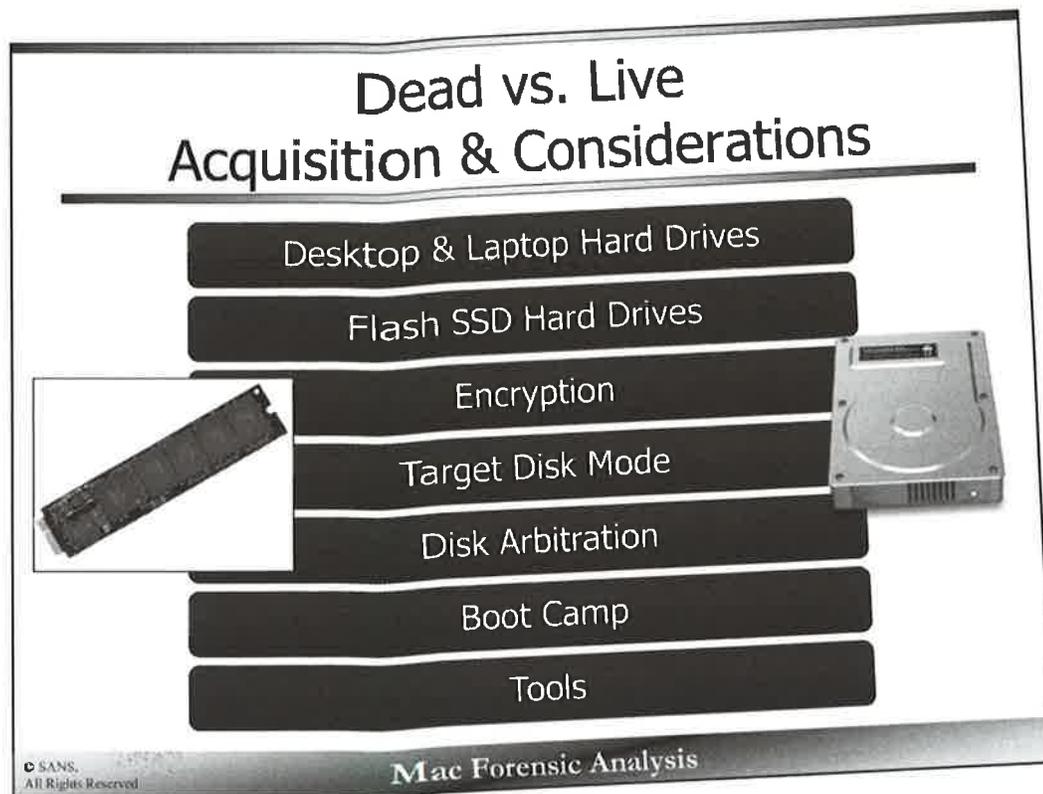
---

# Section 1 – Part 2

## Acquisition & Live Response

---

This page intentionally left blank.



Many of the same tools used for other systems can be used to acquire a Mac. If necessary and physically possible, the hard drives can be removed for acquisition, the author recommends using the website <http://www.ifixit.com/> for hard drive removal instructions. Some Macs are known to be harder to extract the hard drive from than others.

The MacBook Air has introduced solid-state/flash hard drives to a wide variety of users. Most models do not use the “regular” 1.8” or 2.5” Solid-state Drive (SSD) hard drive; rather they use a bank of flash chips on a board with a non-standard interface. As of this writing, Old World Computing makes an external enclosure for the MacBook Air SSD drives that will allow use of standard interfaces. Search for “OWC Mercury On-The-Go USB External Enclosure Solution for MacBook Air” (<http://eshop.macsales.com/item/OWC/SSDAPOTGU3/>)

Encryption can make dead-drive acquisition difficult with Legacy FileVault and FileVault 2 encryption. Legacy FileVault encrypts the user's home directory, while FileVault2 implements full disk encryption. This does not make acquisition impossible, you may image the drive, but you better hope you can get the password! If a system is using FileVault and is up and running – it is best to image unencrypted while you can.

Target Disk Mode (TDM) is used to acquire a Mac hard drive (primary drive only) while still in its original machine. This allows the computer to be seen by an analysis system as an external FireWire/Thunderbolt drive. Some systems, including older MacBook Airs do not have FireWire or Thunderbolt ports, therefore TDM is not possible. When a hard drive has a Boot Camp partition, you will see two volumes – one OS X the other for Windows. If a hard drive has been encrypted using FileVault2, this volume will need to be unlocked. This is described in detail in Section 4. Booting the target system with the “T” key held down can access this mode.

It is worth noting that older systems may have an Open Firmware password may be set, there are a few methods can be used (with varying levels of success):

- Change the amount of RAM in the system and reboot.
- Press Command+Option+P+R to clear the PRAM.

You may enter the Open Firmware terminal by using Command+Option+O+F key sequence.

On newer systems, if the EFI Firmware password is set you will need to obtain a specific key hash and send to Apple (subpeonas@apple.com). Instructions can be found here: <http://www.cnet.com/news/efi-firmware-protection-locks-down-newer-macs/>).

Disk arbitration is the process that automatically mounts disks. When acquiring disks using a Mac be aware if Disk Arbitration is enabled or not, you may automatically mount an evidential disk (which makes writes to it). This can be turned on/off using the `launchctl` commands (these commands are not persistent after a reboot):

Enable (Enabled by default):

```
sudo launchctl load
/System/Library/LaunchDaemons/com.apple.diskarbitrationd.plist
```

Disable:

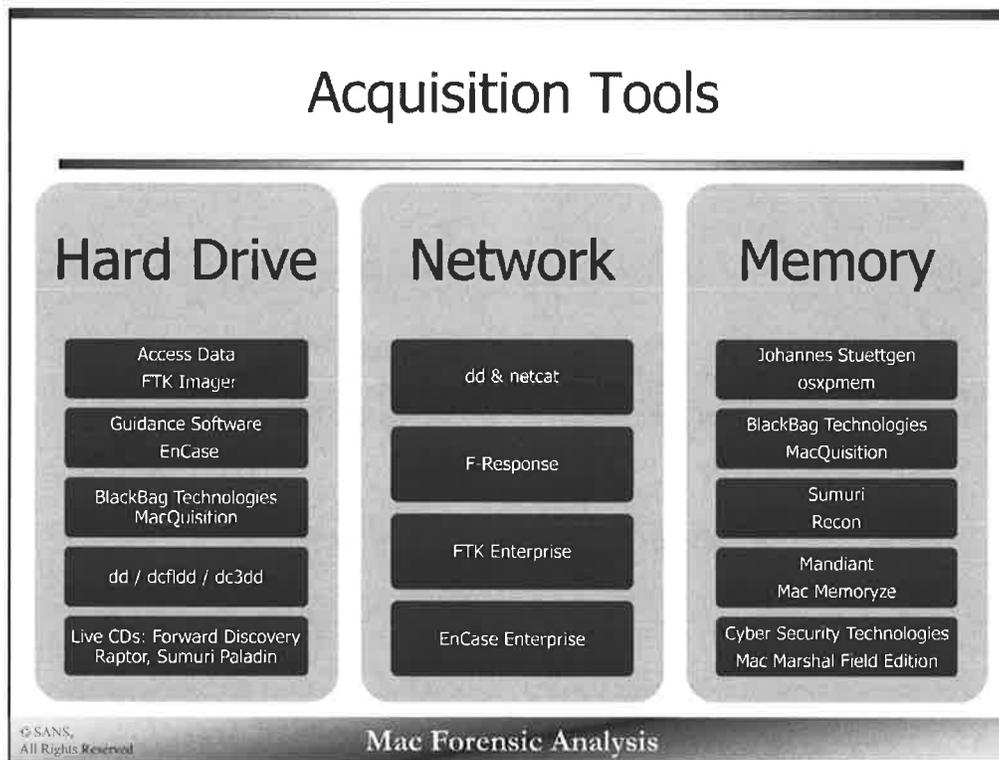
```
sudo launchctl unload
/System/Library/LaunchDaemons/com.apple.diskarbitrationd.plist
```

To determine if disk arbitration is running run the following command to search for the `diskarbitrationd` process (should be under the root user context):

```
ps auxw | grep diskarbitrationd
```

Boot Camp is used to create two bootable partitions, one for OS X and one for Windows. While in Target Disk Mode, if the Mac has a Boot Camp partition (a Windows installation on a separate partition) it should be noted that this may be automatically mounted on a Windows acquisition system. It is also possible to triple-boot (Linux!) Mac systems using third-party tools, the most notable is rEFIt (<http://refit.sourceforge.net/>).

SSD picture from iFixit.com [[www.ifixit.com/Teardown/MacBook+Air+11-Inch+Late+2010+Teardown](http://www.ifixit.com/Teardown/MacBook+Air+11-Inch+Late+2010+Teardown)].



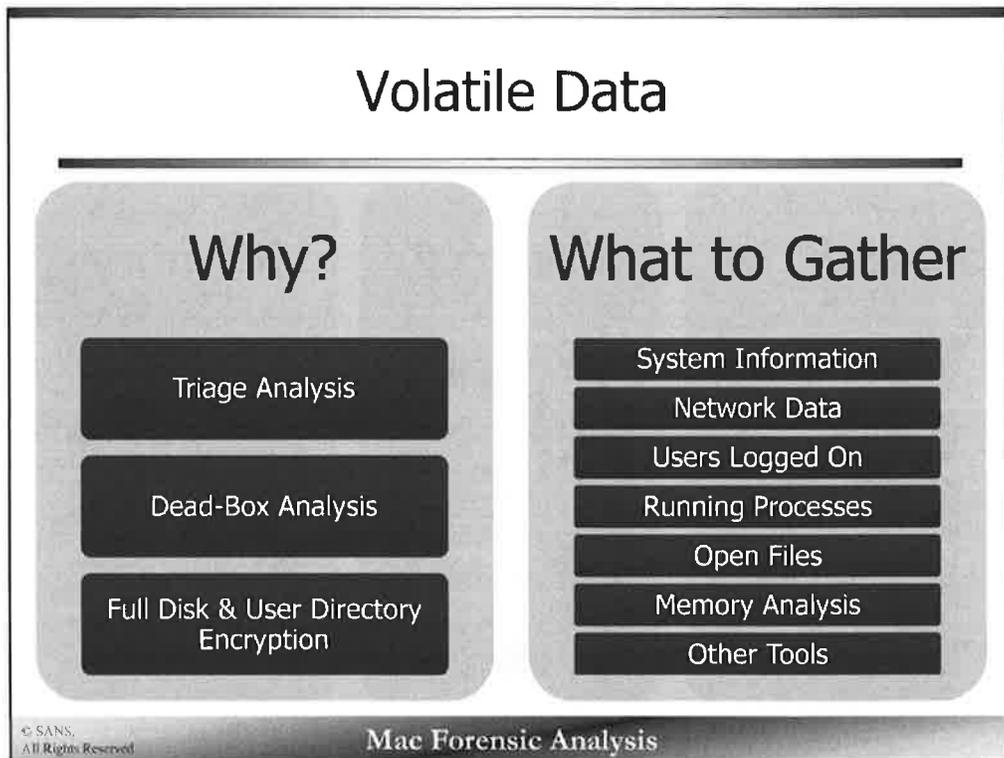
Many of the same acquisition tools can be used on hard drives. Hard drives are hard drives – the same tools you use for Windows-based imaging can be used for Mac systems.

Live acquisition should be used if you need to acquire volatile data or a drive that has implemented encryption. Many of the same tools used for dead-drive acquisition have live response functions as well.

It may be necessary to acquire a system over the network; whether for enterprise or simple distance issues. There are tools that range from a simple over-the-network implementation of `dd` and `netcat` or full-blown enterprise suites.

Memory acquisition may be needed for investigations that are highly dependent on volatile data such as network investigations.

The tools listed are not the only tools available, there are many options at various price points on the market, it is up to you and/or your organization to find the right product for your needs.



Volatile data may be necessary to gather in many types of investigations.

A quick triage may be needed to verify certain data points of a system such as the IP address, a running process, or if a specific file is open.

A dead-box analysis may be incomplete without volatile data, the investigation may need information such as running processes or network data to get a full picture of the system.

If a system is completely inaccessible due to encryption, gathering volatile data may be able to make these types of cases successful. With any luck, a memory image may contain a plaintext password!

Collection of volatile information may help an investigator:

- Decrypt an encrypted volume
- Pin-point a connection to a malicious IP address or a server containing lewd material
- Determine a malicious running process
- Determine what files and documents were open at the time of acquisition
- Determine who was logged onto the system at the time of acquisition

# Memory Acquisition

Johannes Stuetgen  
osxpmem \*10.9+

BlackBag Technologies  
MacQuisition \*10.9+

Sumuri  
Recon \*10.9+

Mandiant  
Mac Memoryze

Cyber Security Technologies  
Mac Marshal Field Edition

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

We will go more in-depth into Mac memory acquisition and analysis in Section 4. The tools listed above are some of the recommended tools to acquire Mac memory.

Each tool has their own limitations and benefits, it is up to the user to determine which tool is best for their current situation. For example, MacQuisition and Recon are part of an applications that acquires volatile data, hard drives, and memory. Mac Marshal is a Mac triage/analysis utility that is available for purchase. Mac Memoryze and osxpmem are free and/or open source but do not acquire additional volatile data or hard drive images.

Note: Each tool requires administrative system privileges to run.

\*10.9 changes things up a bit, introducing compress memory. As of this writing OSXPMem, MacQuisition, and Recon are the only tools capable of acquiring memory from systems running 10.9+.

# Live Response System Information

date

hostname

uname -a

sw\_vers

```
bit:~ oompa$ date
Sun Aug 12 18:13:26 EDT 2012
bit:~ oompa$ hostname
bit
bit:~ oompa$ uname -a
Darwin bit 12.0.0 Darwin Kernel Version 12.0.0: Sun Jun 24 23:00:16 PDT 2012; ro
ot:xnu-2050.7.9~1/RELEASE_X86_64 x86_64
bit:~ oompa$ sw_vers
ProductName:    Mac OS X
ProductVersion: 10.8
BuildVersion:  12A269
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

These four commands will give you the basic information about the system.

date - The local time of the system.

hostname - The hostname of the system.

uname -a - Prints the OS name, network node name, system architecture/release/name/version information. (the -a parameter displays all the information available for this command)

sw\_vers - Prints the OS X version and build information.

Many similar commands in other systems do not necessarily work by default on the Mac. The Mac may use a completely different command to perform the same action, or it may just implement different option flags. Getting to know the commands and using man pages will help you understand the command line intricacies of the Mac.

More information about mapping the Darwin Kernel versions can be found here:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darwin\\_\(operating\\_system\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darwin_(operating_system))

```
bit:~ ompa$ date
Sun Aug 12 18:13:26 EDT 2012
bit:~ ompa$ hostname
bit
bit:~ ompa$ uname -a
Darwin bit 12.0.0 Darwin Kernel Version 12.0.0: Sun Jun 24 23:00:16 PDT 2012; ro
ot:xnu-2050.7.9~1/RELEASE_X86_64 x86_64
bit:~ ompa$ sw_vers
ProductName:    Mac OS X
ProductVersion: 10.8
BuildVersion:  12A269
```

## Live Response Active Network Connections

```
netstat -anf inet
```

```
nibble:vm sledwards$ netstat -anf inet
Active Internet connections (including servers)
Proto Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address          Foreign Address        (state)
tcp4      0      0 192.168.1.206.61743    74.125.228.71.443     ESTABLISHED
tcp4      0      0 192.168.1.206.61742    74.125.228.37.443     ESTABLISHED
tcp4     37      0 192.168.1.206.61735    107.20.249.221.443    CLOSE_WAIT
tcp4     37      0 192.168.1.206.61734    107.20.249.221.443    CLOSE_WAIT
tcp4     37      0 192.168.1.206.61733    108.160.166.10.443    CLOSE_WAIT
tcp4     37      0 192.168.1.206.61732    108.160.165.253.443   CLOSE_WAIT
tcp4      0      0 192.168.1.206.61720    8.18.203.20.80        ESTABLISHED
tcp4      0      0 192.168.1.206.61719    8.18.203.20.80        ESTABLISHED
tcp4      0      0 192.168.1.206.61718    8.18.203.20.80        ESTABLISHED
tcp4      0      0 192.168.1.206.61717    8.18.203.20.80        ESTABLISHED
tcp4      0      0 192.168.1.206.61651    174.129.31.99.443     ESTABLISHED
tcp4      0      0 192.168.1.206.61650    174.129.31.99.443     ESTABLISHED
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Was the system connected to a lewd server or a malicious IP address? The `netstat -an` command lists active network connections, these can be used to determine what connections the system has.

The `-a` parameter shows the stat of all network sockets.

The `-n` parameter shows network addresses as numbers (rather than host and domain names).

The `-f` parameter limits the amount of data shown to only IPv4 and IPv6 network sockets, this does not include UNIX sockets.

The output fields:

- Protocol (TCP or UDP)
- Received Queue (bytes)
- Send Queue (bytes)
- Local IP Address and Port
- Foreign (Remote) IP Address and Port
- State of the Connection

```
nibble:vm sledwards$ netstat -anf inet
Active Internet connections (including servers)
Proto Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address           Foreign Address         (state)
tcp4    0      0 192.168.1.206.61743    74.125.228.71.443      ESTABLISHED
tcp4    0      0 192.168.1.206.61742    74.125.228.37.443      ESTABLISHED
tcp4    37     0 192.168.1.206.61735    107.20.249.221.443     CLOSE_WAIT
tcp4    37     0 192.168.1.206.61734    107.20.249.221.443     CLOSE_WAIT
tcp4    37     0 192.168.1.206.61733    108.160.166.10.443     CLOSE_WAIT
tcp4    37     0 192.168.1.206.61732    108.160.165.253.443    CLOSE_WAIT
tcp4    0      0 192.168.1.206.61720    8.18.203.20.80         ESTABLISHED
tcp4    0      0 192.168.1.206.61719    8.18.203.20.80         ESTABLISHED
tcp4    0      0 192.168.1.206.61718    8.18.203.20.80         ESTABLISHED
tcp4    0      0 192.168.1.206.61717    8.18.203.20.80         ESTABLISHED
tcp4    0      0 192.168.1.206.61651    174.129.31.99.443      ESTABLISHED
tcp4    0      0 192.168.1.206.61650    174.129.31.99.443      ESTABLISHED
```

# Live Response

## Active Network Connections by Process

```
lsuf -i
```

```
bit:~ oompa$ lsuf -i | more
COMMAND  PID  USER  FD  TYPE  DEVICE  SIZE/OFF  NODE NAME
SystemUIS 236  oompa  8u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a706515075  0t0  UDP *:*
```

COMMAND	PID	USER	FD	TYPE	DEVICE	SIZE/OFF	NODE NAME
SystemUIS	236	oompa	8u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a706515075	0t0	UDP *:*
NetworkBr	241	oompa	5u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a7065179cd	0t0	UDP *:*
iaagent	258	oompa	12u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a706763535	0t0	UDP localhost:58160->localhost:58160
iaagent	258	oompa	13u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a71bc9bc65	0t0	TCP bit:61027->bos-0005b-rdr4.blue.aol.com:https (ESTABLISHED)
iaagent	258	oompa	16u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a706eeb84d	0t0	TCP bit:61011->gc-in-f125.1e100.net:5223 (ESTABLISHED)
Dropbox	279	oompa	10u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a71bca0c65	0t0	TCP bit:60999->sjc-not18.sjc.dropbox.com:http (ESTABLISHED)
Dropbox	279	oompa	16u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a7065151fd	0t0	UDP *:17500
Dropbox	279	oompa	19u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a70cace20d	0t0	TCP *:17500 (LISTEN)
Dropbox	279	oompa	21u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a710367df5	0t0	TCP bit:61139->v-client-1a.sjc.dropbox.com:https (CLOSE_WAIT)
Dropbox	279	oompa	25u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a709419c65	0t0	TCP localhost:26164 (LISTEN)
Dropbox	279	oompa	28u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a710259ad5	0t0	TCP bit:61035->ec2-107-22-245-91.compute-1.amazonaws.com:https (CLOSE_WAIT)
Dropbox	279	oompa	29u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a706eebf85	0t0	TCP bit:61045->v-client-2b.sjc.dropbox.com:https (CLOSE_WAIT)
Mail	824	oompa	34u	IPv4	0x9ed2b1a70fed8df5	0t0	TCP bit:61017->mail.csh.rit.edu:imaps (ESTABLISHED)

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The `lsuf -i` command lists Internet and network connections by process. We can see in the screenshot the Dropbox and Mail applications had active connections.

The output fields:

- Process Name
- Process ID
- User Account
- File Descriptor (See man page for details)
- Type (IPv4, IPv6)
- Device (See man page for details)
- Size/Offset (See man page for details)
- Node (TCP or UDP)
- Connection Information & Status (See man page for details)

Other flags that could be of use are the following:

- `-n` – Show IP addresses instead of network names.
- `-P` – Show port numbers versus names.
- `-l` – Show numeric user IDs versus account names.

```

bit:~ oompa$ lsof -i | more
COMMAND  PID  USER  FD  TYPE  DEVICE  SIZE/OFF  NODE NAME
SystemUIS 236  oompa  8u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a706515075  0t0  UDP *:*
NetworkBr 241  oompa  5u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a7065179cd  0t0  UDP *:*
imagent   258  oompa  12u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a706763535  0t0  UDP localhost:58160->localhost:58160
imagent   258  oompa  13u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a71bc9bc65  0t0  TCP bit:61027->bos-d005b-rdr4.blue.aol.com:https (ESTABLISHED)
imagent   258  oompa  16u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a706eeb84d  0t0  TCP bit:61011->qc-in-f125.1e100.net:5223 (ESTABLISHED)
Dropbox   279  oompa  10u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a71bca0c65  0t0  TCP bit:60999->sjc-not18.sjc.dropbox.com:http (ESTABLISHED)
Dropbox   279  oompa  16u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a7065151fd  0t0  UDP *:17500
Dropbox   279  oompa  19u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a70cace20d  0t0  TCP *:17500 (LISTEN)
Dropbox   279  oompa  21u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a710367df5  0t0  TCP bit:61139->v-client-1a.sjc.dropbox.com:https (CLOSE_WAIT)
Dropbox   279  oompa  25u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a709419c65  0t0  TCP localhost:26164 (LISTEN)
Dropbox   279  oompa  28u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a710259ad5  0t0  TCP bit:61035->ec2-107-22-245-91.compute-1.amazonaws.com:https
(CLOSE_WAIT)
Dropbox   279  oompa  29u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a706eebf85  0t0  TCP bit:61045->v-client-2b.sjc.dropbox.com:https (CLOSE_WAIT)
Mail      824  oompa  34u  IPv4  0x9ed2b1a70fed8df5  0t0  TCP bit:61017->mail.csh.rit.edu:imaps (ESTABLISHED)

```

# Live Response Routing Table

```
netstat -rn
```

```
bit:~ oompa$ netstat -rn | more  
Routing tables
```

```
Internet:  
Destination      Gateway          Flags           Refs      Use  Netif  Expire  
default          192.168.1.254   UGSc            22         0    en1  
127              127.0.0.1       UCS              0         0    lo0  
127.0.0.1        127.0.0.1       UH               5    23616  lo0  
169.254          link#6           UCS              1         0    en1  
169.254.204.125  b8:c7:5d:cc:5:80 UHLSW           0         1    en1  
192.168.1        link#6           UCS              5         0    en1  
192.168.1.1      c0:3f:e:8c:59:59 UHLWIi          1        104   en1    850  
192.168.1.101    127.0.0.1       UHS              0         0    lo0  
192.168.1.133    3c:7:54:3:65:20 UHLWIi          0        4502  en1    295  
192.168.1.209    d0:23:db:72:91:10 UHLWIi          0         45   en1   1163  
192.168.1.254    e0:69:95:50:4c:6 UHLWIir         23        577  en1   1188  
192.168.1.255    ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff UHLWbI          0         1    en1
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Was this system connected to a specific server recently? The `netstat -rn` command prints the routing table. The routing table can be used to determine recent network connections or static routes.

The `-r` parameter shows the routing table.

The `-n` parameter shows network addresses as numbers (rather than host and domain names).

Note: Leading 0's in MAC addresses may not show in output.

```

bit:~ oompa$ netstat -rn | more
Routing tables

Internet:
Destination      Gateway          Refs    Netif  Expire
default          192.168.1.254   22      en1
127              127.0.0.1       0        lo0
127.0.0.1       127.0.0.1       5      23616 lo0
169.254         link#6           1        en1
169.254.204.125 b8:c7:5d:cc:5:80 0        en1
192.168.1       link#6           5        en1
192.168.1.1     c0:3f:e:8c:59:59 1       104   en1 850
192.168.1.101   127.0.0.1       0        lo0
192.168.1.133   3c:7:54:3:65:20 0       4502  en1 295
192.168.1.209   d0:23:db:72:91:10 0        en1 1163
192.168.1.254   e0:69:95:50:4c:6 23       577   en1 1188
192.168.1.255   ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff 0        en1

```

## Live Response ARP Table

---

```
arp -an
```

```
bit:~ oompa$ arp -an
? (169.254.204.125) at b8:c7:5d:cc:5:80 on en1 [ethernet]
? (192.168.1.1) at c0:3f:e:8c:59:59 on en1 ifscope [ethernet]
? (192.168.1.133) at 3c:7:54:3:65:20 on en1 ifscope [ethernet]
? (192.168.1.209) at d0:23:db:72:91:10 on en1 ifscope [ethernet]
? (192.168.1.254) at e0:69:95:50:4c:6 on en1 ifscope [ethernet]
? (192.168.1.255) at ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff on en1 ifscope [ethernet]
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Does the target have a NAS hiding in a closet somewhere?

The `arp -an` command prints the Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) table. ARP table shows the IP address to MAC address resolution used for systems on the local network. They may aid in identifying other systems to pursue.

The `-a` parameter shows the stat of all network sockets.

The `-n` parameter shows network addresses as numbers (rather than host and domain names).

Note: Leading 0's in MAC addresses may not show in output.

# Live Response Network Configuration

ifconfig

```
bit:~ oompa$ ifconfig
lo0: flags=8049<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 16384
    options=3<RXCSUM,TXCSUM>
    inet6 fe80::1%lo0 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x1
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 0xff000000
    inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128
gif0: flags=8010<POINTOPOINT,MULTICAST> mtu 1280
stf0: flags=0<> mtu 1280
en0: flags=8863<UP,BROADCAST,SMART,RUNNING,SIMPLEX,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    options=2b<RXCSUM,TXCSUM,VLAN_HWTAGGING,TS04>
    ether c4:2c:03:00:ca:fd
    media: autoselect (none)
    status: inactive
fw0: flags=8863<UP,BROADCAST,SMART,RUNNING,SIMPLEX,MULTICAST> mtu 4078
    lladdr e8:06:88:ff:fe:d5:08
    media: autoselect <full-duplex>
    status: inactive
en1: flags=8863<UP,BROADCAST,SMART,RUNNING,SIMPLEX,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    ether 90:27:e4:f8:e6:5f
    inet6 fe80::9227:e4ff:feb:e65f%en1 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x6
    inet 192.168.1.101 netmask 0xfffff00 broadcast 192.168.1.255
    media: autoselect
    status: active
p2p0: flags=8843<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,SIMPLEX,MULTICAST> mtu 2304
    ether 02:27:e4:f8:e6:5f
    media: autoselect
    status: inactive
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The `ifconfig` command prints the network configuration of the system.

In the screenshot we can see this system as multiple network interfaces. The active interface, `en1` has an IP address of `192.168.1.101`. We can also see the various MAC addresses for each interface, this may be helpful if network logs were captured.

## Network Interfaces:

- `lo#` - Loopback
- `gif#` - Generic Tunnel
- `stf#` - IPv6 to IPv4 Tunnel
- `en#` - Ethernet or Wireless – These are likely the most important to an investigator.
- `fw#` - FireWire
- `p2p#` - Point-to-Point

More information about the wireless interface can be done by using the `airport` command. This utility is located in a directory that is not in the default user's path therefore it should be run as follows. This command can supply the station name, its MAC address, and its authentication status. (i.e., WPA2, WEP).

```
/System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/Apple80211.framework/Versions/Current/Resources/airport -I
```

The `ifconfig -v` command will produce an additional output starting with "type: \*" that contains the type of connection the interface is implementing (i.e.: Wi-Fi, Ethernet, etc.).

```
bit:~ oompa$ ifconfig
lo0: flags=8049<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 16384
    options=3<RXCSUM,TXCSUM>
    inet6 fe80::1%lo0 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x1
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 0xff000000
    inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128
gif0: flags=8010<POINTOPOINT,MULTICAST> mtu 1280
stf0: flags=0<> mtu 1280
en0: flags=8863<UP,BROADCAST,SMART,RUNNING,SIMPLEX,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    options=2b<RXCSUM,TXCSUM,VLAN_HWTAGGING,TS04>
    ether c4:2c:03:09:ca:fd
    media: autoselect (none)
    status: inactive
fw0: flags=8863<UP,BROADCAST,SMART,RUNNING,SIMPLEX,MULTICAST> mtu 4078
    lladdr e8:06:88:ff:fe:d5:5d:08
    media: autoselect <full-duplex>
    status: inactive
en1: flags=8863<UP,BROADCAST,SMART,RUNNING,SIMPLEX,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    ether 90:27:e4:f8:e6:5f
    inet6 fe80::9227:e4ff:fe:f8:e65f%en1 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x6
    inet 192.168.1.101 netmask 0xfffff00 broadcast 192.168.1.255
    media: autoselect
    status: active
p2p0: flags=8843<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,SIMPLEX,MULTICAST> mtu 2304
    ether 02:27:e4:f8:e6:5f
    media: autoselect
    status: inactive
```

# Live Response Open Files

lsdf

```
0117-00003 root 1 new
COMMAND PID USER FD TYPE DEVICE SIZE/OFF NODE NAME
loginind 57 00000 cwd DIR 1,4 1186 2 /
loginind 57 00000 txt REG 1,4 1498816 5048467 /System/Library/CoreServices/loginwindow.app/Contents/MacOS/loginwindow
loginind 57 00000 txt REG 1,4 98916 5785825 /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/BezelServices.framework/Versions/A/BezelServices
loginind 57 00000 txt REG 1,4 65744 5788745 /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/MachineSettings.framework/Versions/A/MachineSettings
loginind 57 00000 txt REG 1,4 39404 5021456 /System/Library/Caches/com.apple.inteldatacache.kbdu
loginind 57 00000 txt REG 1,4 17269 5736732 /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/CoreDLANKit.framework/Versions/A/Resources/AirPortIB.pdf
loginind 57 00000 txt REG 1,4 21216 5984643 /System/Library/Kernel/Plugins/KernelCOP/Plugins/KernelCOP.bundle/Contents/MacOS/KernelCOP
loginind 57 00000 txt REG 1,4 16537 5736788 /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/CoreDLANKit.framework/Versions/A/Resources/AirPortIB.pdf
loginind 57 00000 txt REG 1,4 19822182 9248813 /usr/share/locate/401.dat
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The `lsdf` command prints the open files (and network connections) by the process that is using them. We can see what data files and documents the users' processes has open per application.

It includes the process ID, username, and filename.

For example, keyloggers may have an open file handle to the keylog file they are writing keystrokes to. Using the `lsdf` command if we are able to identify a rogue keylogger process we may be able to identify the keylog file.

```
bit:~ ompas$ lsdf | more
```

COMMAND	PID	USER	FD	TYPE	DEVICE	SIZE/OFF	MODE	NAME
loginwind	57	ompas	cmd	DIR	1,4	1490816	2 /	/System/Library/CoreServices/loginwindow.app/Contents/MacOS/loginwindow
loginwind	57	ompas	txt	REG	1,4	1156		
loginwind	57	ompas	txt	REG	1,4	98816		/System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/BezelServices.framework/Versions/A/BezelServices
loginwind	57	ompas	txt	REG	1,4	65744		/System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/MachineSettings.framework/Versions/A/MachineSettings
loginwind	57	ompas	txt	REG	1,4	39404		/System/Library/Caches/com.apple.IntlDataCache.le.kbdx
loginwind	57	ompas	txt	REG	1,4	17289		/System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/CoreMLKit.framework/Versions/A/Resources/AirPort0.pdf
loginwind	57	ompas	txt	REG	1,4	21216		/System/Library/Kernels/Plugins/KernelPlugin/Plugins/helanda1odpac.bundle/Contents/MacOS/helanda1odpac
loginwind	57	ompas	txt	REG	1,4	16537		/System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/CoreMLKit.framework/Versions/A/Resources/AirPort0T.pdf
loginwind	57	ompas	txt	REG	1,4	1902212		/usr/share/ICU/icudt49L.dat

# Live Response

## Users Logged On [1]

```
who -a
```

```
W
```

```
bit:~ oompa$ who -a
reboot  ~          Aug  4 11:24 00:24      1
oompa   console    Aug  4 11:26 old         57
oompa   ttys000     Aug 12 18:13 .          13949
oompa   ttys001     Aug 12 18:18 00:09     13976
.       run-level 3
bit:~ oompa$ w
18:55  up 8 days,  7:31, 3 users, load averages: 1.07 0.99 0.88
USER    TTY      FROM          LOGIN@  IDLE WHAT
oompa   console -             04Aug12 8days -
oompa   s000    -             18:13   - w
oompa   s001    -             18:18   9 /usr/bin/less -is
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The `who -a` command displays the following:

- Time of last system boot
- Logged in users
- Type of Logon
  - `console` - Login via GUI
  - `ttys*` - Login via Terminal
- User Login Time
- User Idle Time
- Associated Process ID

The `w` command has much of the same information as `who -a`, however it also contains:

- Local System Time
- System Uptime
- Number of Users
- Remote Login System Information
- Current Activity of the Logon Process

The 'oompa' user in the screenshot has one login process open (through the normal login screen) and two Terminal sessions open. Each Terminal session/window is a separate login process.

You may also want to identify the currently logged in user, try these commands:

- `who am i` - Show the currently logged in username, console number, and login process timestamp.
- `whoami` - Show the username of currently logged in user.
- `id` - Show the "User Identity" of the current user, including user ID (UID) and group (GID) affiliations.

## Live Response Users Logged On [2]

```
last
```

```
nibble:/ sledwards$ last
sledwards ttys001          Sat Feb  1 12:18  still logged in
sledwards ttys000          Fri Jan 31 20:26  still logged in
sledwards ttys000          Sun Jan 26 21:49 - 21:52 (00:03)
sledwards ttys006          Wed Jan 22 18:40 - 19:59 (01:18)
sledwards ttys005          Tue Jan 21 18:21 - 21:17 (7+02:55)
sledwards ttys004          Tue Jan 21 18:15 - 21:17 (7+03:02)
sledwards ttys002          Tue Jan 21 16:48 - 21:17 (7+04:29)
sledwards ttys008          Tue Jan 21 05:31 - 12:29 (06:57)
sledwards ttys007          Tue Jan 21 05:29 - 16:48 (11:18)
sledwards ttys006          Tue Jan 21 05:18 - 16:48 (11:29)
sledwards ttys005          Tue Jan 21 05:15 - 16:48 (11:33)
sledwards ttys004          Tue Jan 21 04:47 - 16:48 (12:01)
sledwards ttys002          Tue Jan 21 04:40 - 16:48 (12:07)
sledwards ttys003          Mon Jan 20 18:01 - 21:42 (2+03:41)
sledwards ttys002          Mon Jan 20 12:56 - 20:09 (07:12)
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The `last` command lists the last logins of the system by user, terminal session, date, a hostname (if applicable), and session length.

The timestamp shown gives the duration of the login process. For example, “7+02:55” means the user has had this login process open for one week (7 days), 2 hours, and 55 minutes.

The end of the `last` command output contains the timestamp when the “wtmp” logging has started. For example, “wtmp begins Mon Jul 7 10:08”.

# Live Response Running Processes

```
ps aux
```

```
oompa 8814 0.3 1.2 1003732 98268 ?? S Wed08PM 1:56.18 /Applications/Microsoft Office 2011/H
kelly 14583 0.2 0.5 2525132 45848 ?? S 7:09PM 0:02.11 /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/He
oompa 8586 0.2 0.3 2572748 22040 ?? S Tue08PM 4:49.34 /Applications/Utilities/Activity Mon
oompa 237 0.2 1.6 3847120 137032 ?? S 4Aug12 10:45.67 /System/Library/CoreServices/Finder.
root 8589 0.1 0.0 2445112 3240 ?? Ss Tue08PM 3:30.86 /usr/libexec/activitymonitord
oompa 254 0.1 0.2 2548272 20176 ?? SN 4Aug12 0:12.17 /System/Library/CoreServices/Notific
oompa 270 0.1 0.8 758272 65752 ?? S 4Aug12 14:27.73 /Applications/Dropbox.app/Contents/M
charlie 14677 0.0 0.0 2484312 3532 ?? SN 7:10PM 0:00.12 /usr/sbin/usernoted
charlie 14676 0.0 0.0 2485232 3000 ?? S 7:10PM 0:00.07 /System/Library/CoreServices/Network
charlie 14673 0.0 0.2 2531632 16512 ?? S 7:10PM 0:00.48 /System/Library/CoreServices/Finder.
charlie 14672 0.0 0.6 2580296 51196 ?? S 7:10PM 0:04.97 /System/Library/CoreServices/Dock.app
charlie 14662 0.0 0.0 2488108 2472 ?? S 7:09PM 0:00.03 /System/Library/Services/AppleSpell.
charlie 14652 0.0 0.0 2467404 2920 ?? S 7:09PM 0:00.07 /System/Library/CoreServices/pbs
charlie 14651 0.0 0.3 2599168 24472 ?? S 7:09PM 0:01.43 /System/Library/CoreServices/SystemU
charlie 14649 0.0 0.1 2581732 10120 ?? S 7:09PM 0:01.18 /System/Library/Frameworks/Applicati
charlie 14648 0.0 0.1 2584224 7332 ?? S 7:09PM 0:00.11 /System/Library/CoreServices/talagen
charlie 14642 0.0 0.0 2433976 1592 ?? S 7:09PM 0:00.08 /usr/sbin/pboard
charlie 14633 0.0 0.0 2483820 2456 ?? S 7:09PM 0:00.13 /usr/sbin/distnoted agent
charlie 14631 0.0 0.0 2465740 1500 ?? S 7:09PM 0:00.25 /usr/sbin/cfprefsd agent
charlie 14629 0.0 0.0 2471500 1576 ?? Ss 7:09PM 0:00.14 /sbin/launchd
charlie 14616 0.0 0.3 2572380 25728 ?? Ss 7:09PM 0:01.50 /System/Library/CoreServices/loginwi
kelly 14608 0.0 0.0 2465392 2036 ?? S 7:09PM 0:00.02 /System/Library/CoreServices/AirPort
kelly 14603 0.0 0.2 2516072 14220 ?? Ss 7:09PM 0:00.31 com.apple.dock.extra
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The `ps aux` command outputs the process status. The output contains information such as (see the man page for more detail):

- User Account
- Process ID
- Percentage of CPU and RAM
- Process Start Date and Time
- Issued Command

Note the lack of the '-' in the command. Unlike other systems, putting this dash in the command will be unsuccessful. This is a good example of how OS X commands may differ than other UNIX-like systems.

You may want experiment with other command arguments such as the following:

- `-ww` – Use this flag to display all the information, otherwise it defaults to screen width.
- `-ef` – Display more information including parent process IDs.

oompa	8814	0.3	1.2	1003732	98268	??	S	Wed06PM	1:56.18	/Applications/Microsoft Office 2011/H
Kelly	14583	0.2	0.5	2525132	45848	??	S	7:09PM	0:02.11	/System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/He
oompa	8586	0.2	0.3	2572748	22840	??	S	Tue08PM	4:49.34	/Applications/Utilities/Activity Moni
oompa	237	0.2	1.6	3847120	137032	??	S	4Aug12	10:45.67	/System/Library/CoreServices/Finde.r
root	8589	0.1	0.0	2445112	3248	??	Ss	Tue08PM	3:30.86	/usr/libexec/activitymonitor
oompa	254	0.1	0.2	2548272	20176	??	SN	4Aug12	0:12.17	/System/Library/CoreServices/Notifica
oompa	279	0.1	0.8	758272	65752	??	S	4Aug12	14:27.73	/Applications/Dropbox.app/Contents/Me
charlie	14677	0.0	0.0	2484312	3532	??	SN	7:10PM	0:00.12	/usr/sbin/usernoted
charlie	14676	0.0	0.0	2485232	3000	??	S	7:10PM	0:00.07	/System/Library/CoreServices/NetworkB
charlie	14673	0.0	0.2	2531632	16512	??	S	7:10PM	0:00.48	/System/Library/CoreServices/Finder.d
charlie	14672	0.0	0.6	2580296	51196	??	S	7:10PM	0:04.97	/System/Library/CoreServices/Dock.app
charlie	14662	0.0	0.0	2488108	2472	??	S	7:09PM	0:00.03	/System/Library/Services/AppleSpell.s
charlie	14652	0.0	0.0	2467404	2920	??	S	7:09PM	0:00.07	/System/Library/CoreServices/pbs
charlie	14651	0.0	0.3	2599168	24472	??	S	7:09PM	0:01.43	/System/Library/CoreServices/SystemUI
charlie	14649	0.0	0.1	2501732	10120	??	S	7:09PM	0:01.18	/System/Library/Frameworks/Applicati
charlie	14648	0.0	0.1	2504224	7332	??	S	7:09PM	0:00.11	/System/Library/CoreServices/talagent
charlie	14642	0.0	0.0	2433976	1592	??	S	7:09PM	0:00.08	/usr/sbin/pboard
charlie	14633	0.0	0.0	2483820	2456	??	S	7:09PM	0:00.13	/usr/sbin/distnoted agent
charlie	14631	0.0	0.0	2465740	1500	??	S	7:09PM	0:00.25	/usr/sbin/cfprefsd agent
charlie	14629	0.0	0.0	2471500	1576	??	Ss	7:09PM	0:00.14	/sbin/launchd
charlie	14616	0.0	0.3	2572380	25728	??	Ss	7:09PM	0:01.50	/System/Library/CoreServices/loginwin
Kelly	14608	0.0	0.0	2465392	2036	??	S	7:09PM	0:00.02	/System/Library/CoreServices/AirPort
Kelly	14603	0.0	0.2	2516072	14220	??	Ss	7:09PM	0:00.31	com.apple.dock.extra

# Live Response System Profiler



```
system_profiler -xml -detaillevel full >  
/Volume/IR_CASE/sys_prof_MBP.spx
```

Open in "System Information.app" or system\_profiler command

- Hardware Information
- USB Information
- Network Information
- Firewall Settings
- Mounted Volumes
- System Information
- Applications
- Kernel Extensions
- Log Data

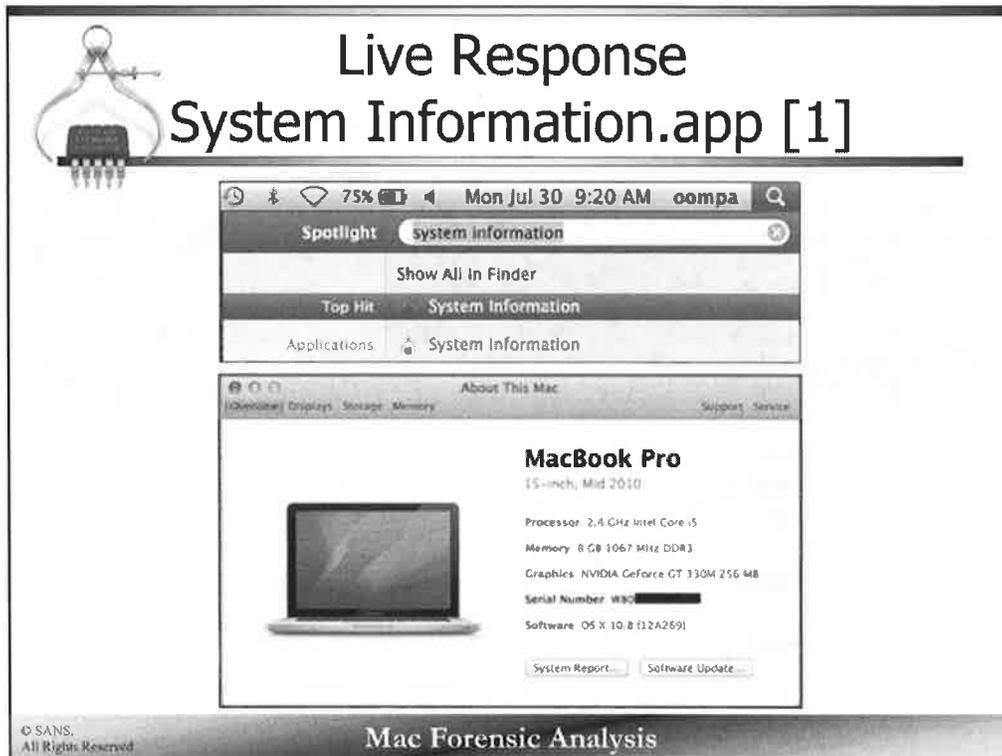
© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved.

Mac Forensic Analysis

The `system_profiler` command is the command-line version of the System Information application.

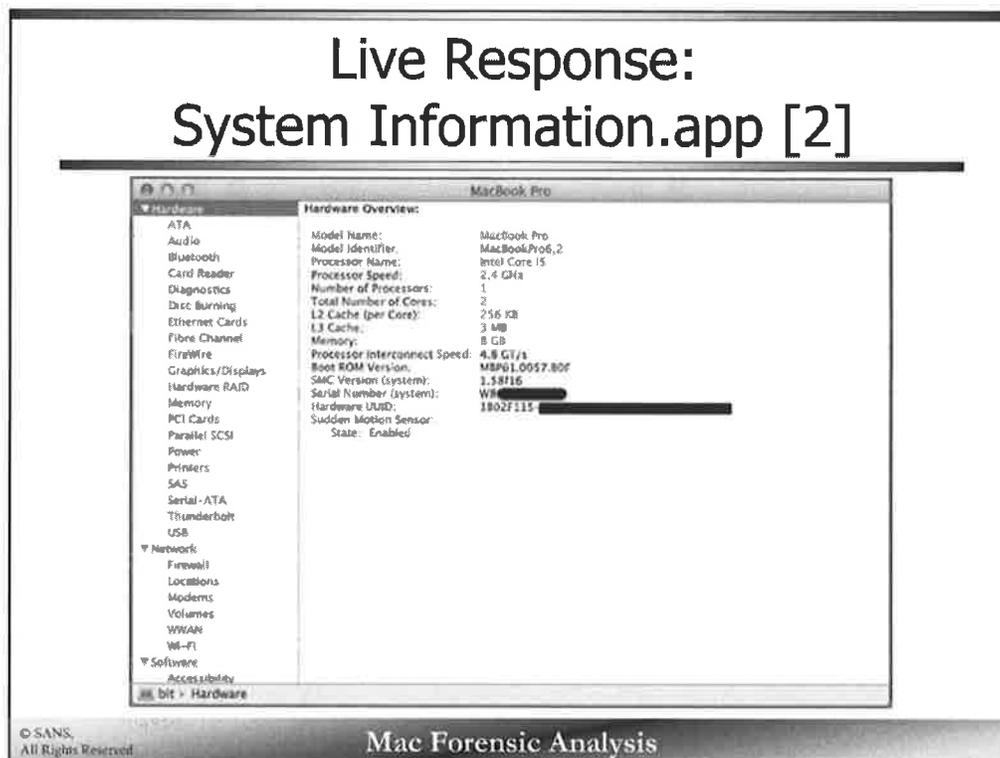
The `system_profiler` command has different output formats and detail level options. As long as the output is named with a ".spx" file extension, the data can be viewed in the System Information.app. The XML output option can be used with the System Information.app located in /Applications/Utilities/. The output levels can be set as 'mini', 'basic', and 'full' or by the specific data type that can be accessed by the command:

```
system_profiler -listDataTypes  
Available Datatypes:  
SPParallelATADataType  
SPUniversalAccessDataType  
SPApplicationsDataType  
SPAudioDataType  
SPBluetoothDataType  
SPCardReaderDataType  
SPComponentDataType  
SPDeveloperToolsDataType  
SPDiagnosticsDataType  
SPDiscBurningDataType  
SPEthernetDataType  
SPExtensionsDataType  
SPFibreChannelDataType  
SPFireWireDataType  
SPFirewallDataType  
SPFontsDataType  
SPFrameworksDataType  
SPDisplaysDataType  
SPHardwareDataType  
...
```



These screen shots show how to access the System Information.app application from the Spotlight menu or from the “About This Mac” menu available by selecting the Apple logo in the top left corner of the screen and selecting “System Report”.

## Live Response: System Information.app [2]



This screen shot shows the types of data available from the System Information.app application or from the `system_profiler` command.

This tool is native to OS X.

You may also open the System Information.app application and choose File | Save to save this information directly from the GUI rather than on the command line.

Hardware Overview:

Model Name: MacBook Pro  
Model Identifier: MacBookPro6,2  
Processor Name: Intel Core i5  
Processor Speed: 2.4 GHz  
Number of Processors: 1  
Total Number of Cores: 2  
L2 Cache (per Core): 256 KB  
L3 Cache: 3 MB  
Memory: 8 GB  
Processor Interconnect Speed: 4.8 GT/s  
Boot ROM Version: MBP61.0057.80F  
SMC Version (system): 1.58f16  
Serial Number (system): W8 [REDACTED]  
Hardware UUID: 1802F115-[REDACTED]  
Sudden Motion Sensor: State: Enabled

- ATA
- Audio
- Bluetooth
- Card Reader
- Diagnostics
- Disc Burning
- Ethernet Cards
- Fibre Channel
- FireWire
- Graphics/Displays
- Hardware RAID
- Memory
- PCI Cards
- Parallel SCSI
- Power
- Printers
- SAS
- Serial-ATA
- Thunderbolt
- USB
- Network
  - Firewall
  - Locations
  - Modems
  - Volumes
  - WWAN
  - Wi-Fi
- Software
- Accessibility



---

# Exercise 1.1 – Mac Live Response

---

This page intentionally left blank.

# Agenda

---

Part 1 – Mac Fundamentals

Part 2 – Acquisition & Live Response

Part 3 – Disks & Partitions

Part 4 – HFS+ File System

Part 5 – Mounting Disk Images

Part 6 – BlackLight 101

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

This page intentionally left blank.



---

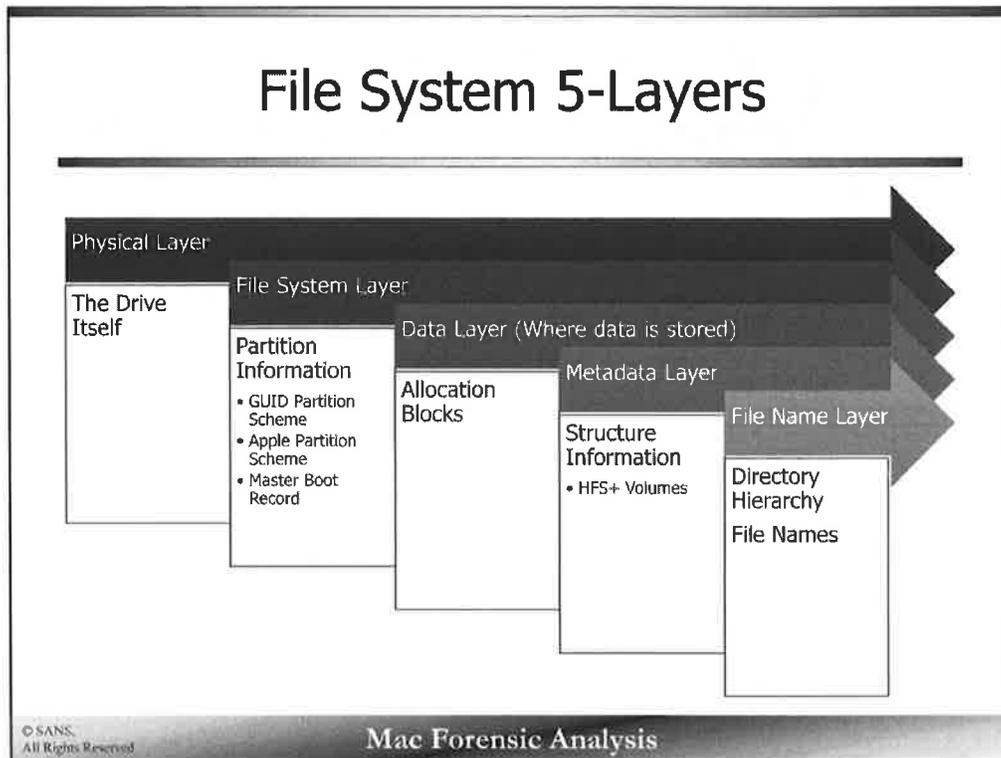
# Section 1 – Part 3

## Disks & Partitions

---

This page intentionally left blank.

# File System 5-Layers



A file system is comprised of five layers; physical, file system, data, metadata, and file name. These will be discussed in this section in detail.

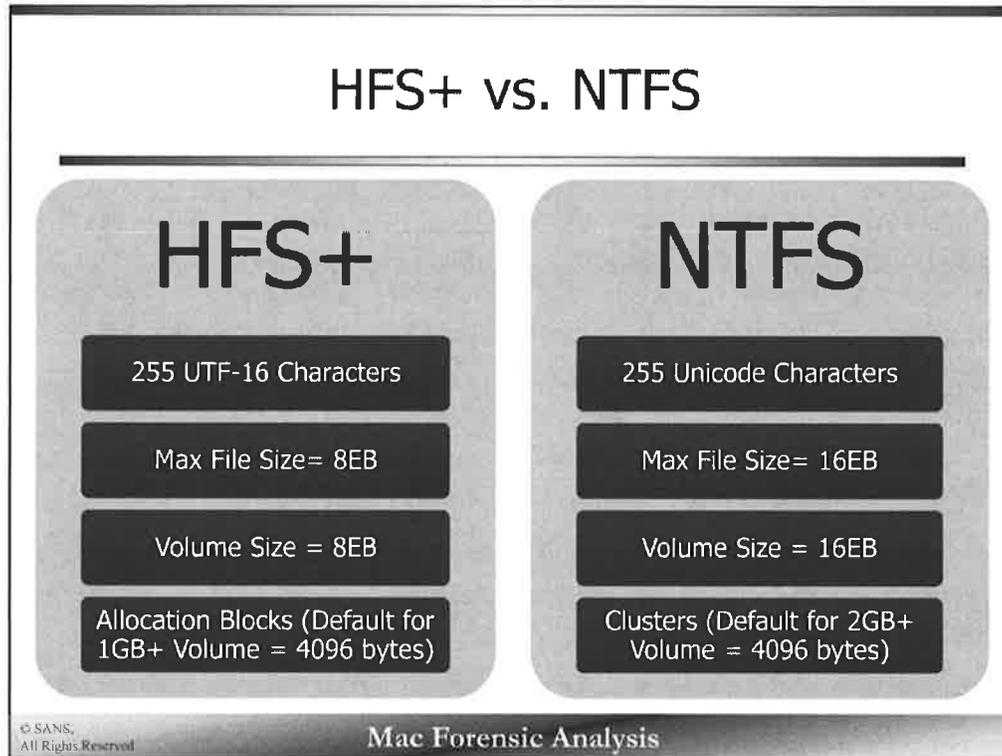
The physical and file system layers contain non-specific file system information such as the hardware and partitioning scheme. These will be discussed first to give a basis for the file system data that is presented on top of these structures.

The primary partitioning schemes found on Mac systems are the Globally Unique Identifier (GUID) Partition Scheme, Apple Partition Scheme and the Master Boot Record partitions.

The Allocation blocks used in the Data Layer are analogous to “Clusters” used in NTFS file systems.

The data, metadata, and file name layers contain the majority of the data that is presented and reviewed by forensic analysts. This will be discussed in greater detail in the following section.

## HFS+ vs. NTFS



The primary file system used on Mac systems is the Hierarchical File System Plus (HFS+). Compared with New Technology File System (NTFS), it has a smaller maximum file and volume size, but similar in allocation block/cluster size.

# Mac Partition Schemes

Apple Partition Map  
(Apple Partition Scheme)

GUID Partition Table  
(GUID Partition Scheme)

Master Boot Record

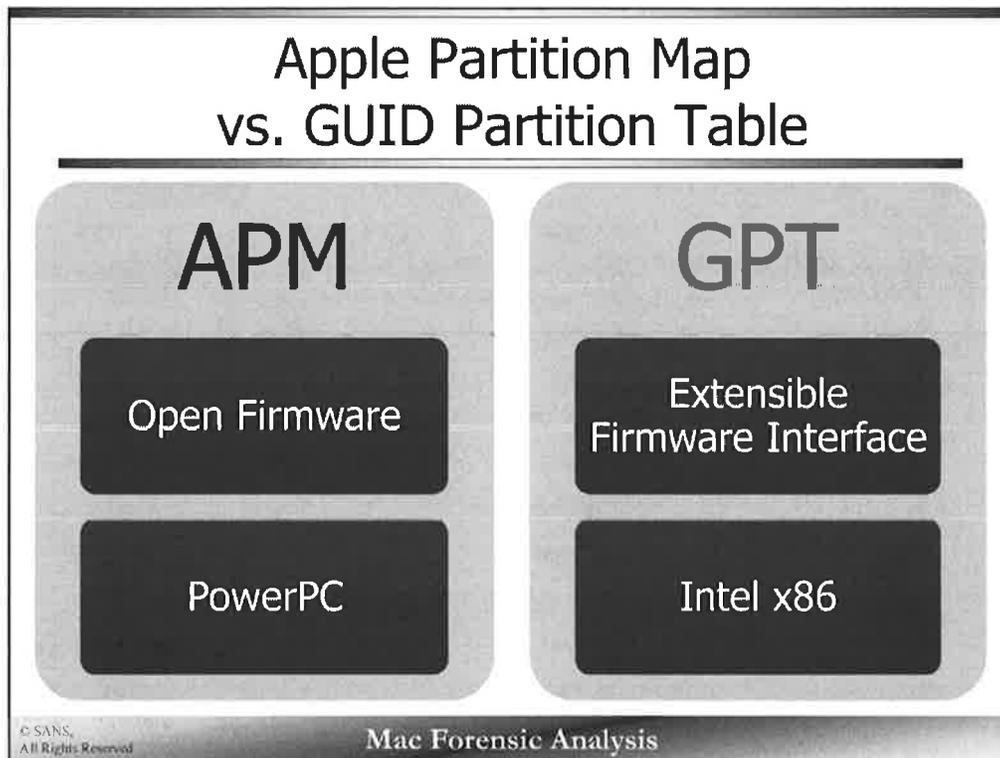
© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Mac systems primarily use three types of partition schemes for different purposes.

A default installation of Mac OS X will partition the drive using the GUID Partition Scheme, creating an EFI partition and a protective MBR.

Disk image files (.dmg), can use the GUID Partition Scheme, the Apple Partition Scheme, a Master Boot Record, or no partition at all depending on what the user wants to do with the disk image.



Mac OS X installations on PowerPC hardware will have a Apple Partition Map and use Open Firmware, while Intel x86 based systems will implement GUID Partition Table with the Extensible Firmware Interface.

## diskutil list Command



```

byte:~ oompa$ diskutil list
/dev/disk0
#:                                TYPE NAME                SIZE          IDENTIFIER
0:                                GUID_partition_scheme    *500.1 GB     disk0
1:                                EFI                      209.7 MB      disk0s1
2:                                Apple_HFS Macintosh HD    499.2 GB      disk0s2
3:                                Apple_Boot Recovery HD    650.0 MB      disk0s3
/dev/disk1
#:                                TYPE NAME                SIZE          IDENTIFIER
0:                                FDisk_partition_scheme    *8.0 GB       disk1
1:                                DOS_FAT_32 NO NAME        8.0 GB        disk1s1
/dev/disk2
#:                                TYPE NAME                SIZE          IDENTIFIER
0:                                FDisk_partition_scheme    *2.0 TB       disk2
1:                                Windows_NTFS WDPassport   2.0 TB        disk2s1
/dev/disk3
#:                                TYPE NAME                SIZE          IDENTIFIER
0:                                FDisk_partition_scheme    *3.5 GB       disk3
1:                                DOS_FAT_32 Kindle         3.5 GB        disk3s1
/dev/disk4
#:                                TYPE NAME                SIZE          IDENTIFIER
0:                                FDisk_partition_scheme    *1.0 GB       disk4
1:                                DOS_FAT_16 ORANGE         1.0 GB        disk4s1

```

© SANS, All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

To view the disk partitions on the drives associated with a specific Mac you can issue the `diskutil list` command.

The output of the command shown in the screenshot above shows a variety of disk partition types.

- `/dev/disk0` contains the Mac OS X operating system. This disk uses the GUID Partition Scheme (shown as `GUID_partition_scheme`). Note the EFI partition.
- `/dev/disk1` is an external drive named “NO NAME” that uses an Master Boot Record (shown as `FDisk_partition_scheme`) as it is formatted as FAT32.
- `/dev/disk2` is another external drive named “WDPassport” that is formatted with NTFS and also uses the MBR.
- `/dev/disk3` is a Kindle device that uses the MBR with a FAT32 file system.
- `/dev/disk4` is another external USB named “ORANGE” drive that uses the MBR, however it is formatted with FAT16.

The output above also shows the number of partitions each disk contains, with the size and disk identifier.

This disk identifier is formatted in the format `disk#s#` where the first number is the disk number and the second is the partition or “slice”. This will be used later to reference a specific partition on a drive.

The same information can be found using the `Disk Utility.app` application located in `/Applications/Utilities/`.

```
byte:~ oompa$ diskutil list
/dev/disk0
```

#:	TYPE	NAME	SIZE	IDENTIFIER
0:	GUID_partition_scheme		*500.1 GB	disk0
1:	EFI		209.7 MB	disk0s1
2:	Apple_HFS	Macintosh HD	499.2 GB	disk0s2
3:	Apple_Boot	Recovery HD	650.0 MB	disk0s3

```
/dev/disk1
```

#:	TYPE	NAME	SIZE	IDENTIFIER
0:	FDisk_partition_scheme		*8.0 GB	disk1
1:	DOS_FAT_32	NO NAME	8.0 GB	disk1s1

```
/dev/disk2
```

#:	TYPE	NAME	SIZE	IDENTIFIER
0:	FDisk_partition_scheme		*2.0 TB	disk2
1:	Windows_NTFS	WDPassport	2.0 TB	disk2s1

```
/dev/disk3
```

#:	TYPE	NAME	SIZE	IDENTIFIER
0:	FDisk_partition_scheme		*3.5 GB	disk3
1:	DOS_FAT_32	Kindle	3.5 GB	disk3s1

```
/dev/disk4
```

#:	TYPE	NAME	SIZE	IDENTIFIER
0:	FDisk_partition_scheme		*1.0 GB	disk4
1:	DOS_FAT_16	ORANGE	1.0 GB	disk4s1

# diskutil info

## Command [1]

```
byte:~ oompa$ diskutil info disk0
Device Identifier:      disk0
Device Node:           /dev/disk0
Part of Whole:         disk0
Device / Media Name:   TOSHIBA MK5065GSXF Media

Volume Name:           Not applicable (no file system)
Mounted:               Not applicable (no file system)
File System:           None

Content (IOContent):   GUID_partition_scheme
OS Can Be Installed:  No
Media Type:            Generic
Protocol:              SATA
SMART Status:          Verified

Total Size:            500.1 GB (500107862016 Bytes) (exactly 976773168
512-Byte-Blocks)
Volume Free Space:     Not applicable (no file system)
Device Block Size:     512 Bytes

Read-Only Media:       No
Read-Only Volume:     Not applicable (no file system)
Ejectable:             No

Whole:                 Yes
Internal:              Yes
Solid State:          No
OS 9 Drivers:         No
Low Level Formats:    Not supported
Device Location:      "Lower"
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The `diskutil info` command is used on a specific disk or partition to display additional information about the disk or partition.

In the screenshot above `disk0` was used. The output shows various information such as:

- Make/Model of the hardware (Toshiba MK5065GSXF)
- The drive interface (SATA)
- Drive size in bytes and blocks
- Block Size
- Read-Only
- Location, useful for systems with multiple internal disks such as Mac Pro systems.

```

byte:~ ompa$ diskutil info disk0
Device Identifier:      disk0
Device Node:           /dev/disk0
Part of Whole:         disk0
Device / Media Name:   TOSHIBA MK5065GSXF Media

Volume Name:           Not applicable (no file system)
Mounted:               Not applicable (no file system)

File System:           None

Content (IOContent):   GUID_partition_scheme
OS Can Be Installed:   No
Media Type:            Generic
Protocol:              SATA
SMART Status:          Verified

Total Size:            500.1 GB (500107862016 Bytes) (exactly 976773168
512-Byte-Blocks)
Volume Free Space:     Not applicable (no file system)
Device Block Size:     512 Bytes

Read-Only Media:       No
Read-Only Volume:     Not applicable (no file system)
Ejectable:             No

Whole:                 Yes
Internal:              Yes
Solid State:           No
OS 9 Drivers:          No
Low Level Format:      Not supported
Device Location:       "Lower"

```



```

byte:~ oompa$ diskutil info disk0s2
Device Identifier:      disk0s2
Device Node:           /dev/disk0s2
Part of Whole:         disk0
Device / Media Name:   Customer

Volume Name:           Macintosh HD
Escaped with Unicode:  Macintosh%FF%FE%20%00HD

Mounted:               Yes
Mount Point:           /
Escaped with Unicode:  /

File System Personality:  Journaled HFS+
Type (Bundle):           hfs
Name (User Visible):     Mac OS Extended (Journaled)
Journal:                 Journal size 40960 KB at offset 0xe38a000
Owners:                  Enabled

Partition Type:         Apple_HFS
OS Can Be Installed:    Yes
Media Type:             Generic
Protocol:               SATA
SMART Status:           Verified
Volume UUID:            C51CD139-A54F-3988-A787-213C0CBA6D71

Total Size:             499.2 GB (499248103424 Bytes) (exactly 975093952
512-Byte-Blocks)
Volume Free Space:      272.1 GB (272126107648 Bytes) (exactly 531496304
512-Byte-Blocks)
Device Block Size:      512 Bytes

Read-Only Media:        No
Read-Only Volume:       No
Ejectable:              No

Whole:                  No
Internal:               Yes
Solid State:            No
Device Location:        "Lower"

```

# Apple Partition Map

## diskutil & TSK's mmls

- Introduced in 1987 - Contains partitions for drivers and patches
- Apple\_partition\_map – Partition Map
- Apple\_Driver\_ATAPI – ATAPI Device Driver
- Apple\_HFS – HFS+ Volume

```
/dev/disk5
```

#:	TYPE NAME	SIZE	IDENTIFIER
0:	Apple_partition_scheme	*41.0 MB	disk5
1:	Apple_partition_map	32.3 KB	disk5s1
2:	Apple_HFS Secrets	41.0 MB	disk5s2

```
word:Documents oompa$ mmls SecretDocs.dmg
MAC Partition Map
Offset Sector: 0
Units are in 512-byte sectors
```

Slot	Start	End	Length	Description	
00:	-----	0000000000	0000000000	0000000001	Unallocated
01:	00	0000000001	0000000063	0000000063	Apple_partition_map
02:	Meta	0000000001	0000000002	0000000002	Table
03:	01	0000000064	0000080063	0000080000	Apple_HFS

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Apple Partition Map partitioning scheme was introduced in 1987. APM is known to create multiple partitions with various drivers and patches contained in them. This creates partitions with names such as `Apple_Driver_ATAPI` that contains ATAPI drivers or `Apple_FWDriver` that contains FireWire drivers. Many of these partition names have been enumerated on the Wikipedia page for Apple Partition Map. [[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apple\\_Partition\\_Map](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apple_Partition_Map)]

The partition names that you will want to look for should be named `Apple_HFS`. This is the primary partition containing the user and system data. The `Apple_partition_map` partition contains the partition map and is also a partition in and of itself.

In the screenshot above, the example shown as `disk3` is the partition table located on a Mac OS X installation DVD.

#### References:

File System Forensic Analysis – Brian Carrier - pp.101-107

Mac OS X Internals - Amit Singh – pp. 1349-1352

TN2166 – Secrets of the GPT

[https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/technotes/tn2166/\\_index.html](https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/technotes/tn2166/_index.html)

```

/dev/disk5
#:#: TYPE NAME SIZE IDENTIFIER
0: Apple_partition_scheme *41.0 MB disk5
1: Apple_partition_map 32.3 KB disk5s1
2: Apple_HFS Secrets 41.0 MB disk5s2

```

```

word:Documents ompa$ mmls SecretDocs.dmg
MAC Partition Map
Offset Sector: 0
Units are in 512-byte sectors

```

Slot	Start	End	Length	Description
00:	0000000000	0000000000	0000000001	Unallocated
01:	0000000001	0000000063	0000000063	Apple_partition_map
02:	0000000001	0000000002	0000000002	Table
03:	0000000064	000080063	000080000	Apple_HFS

# GUID Partition Table on OS X

Booting from a GPT Partitioned disk available on Intel-based Macs.  
(~2006+)

Mounting a GPT Partitioned disk available in 10.4+

APM limited to 2TB disks

Little Endian (mostly)

Technical Note 2166 – Secrets of the GPT

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The GUID Partition Table implemented on Intel-based Mac systems started in 2006 with the transition to Intel hardware; however, mounting a GPT partition disk was available in Mac OS X 10.4.

The switch to GPT from APM was due to the limited disk size that APM could not provide for.

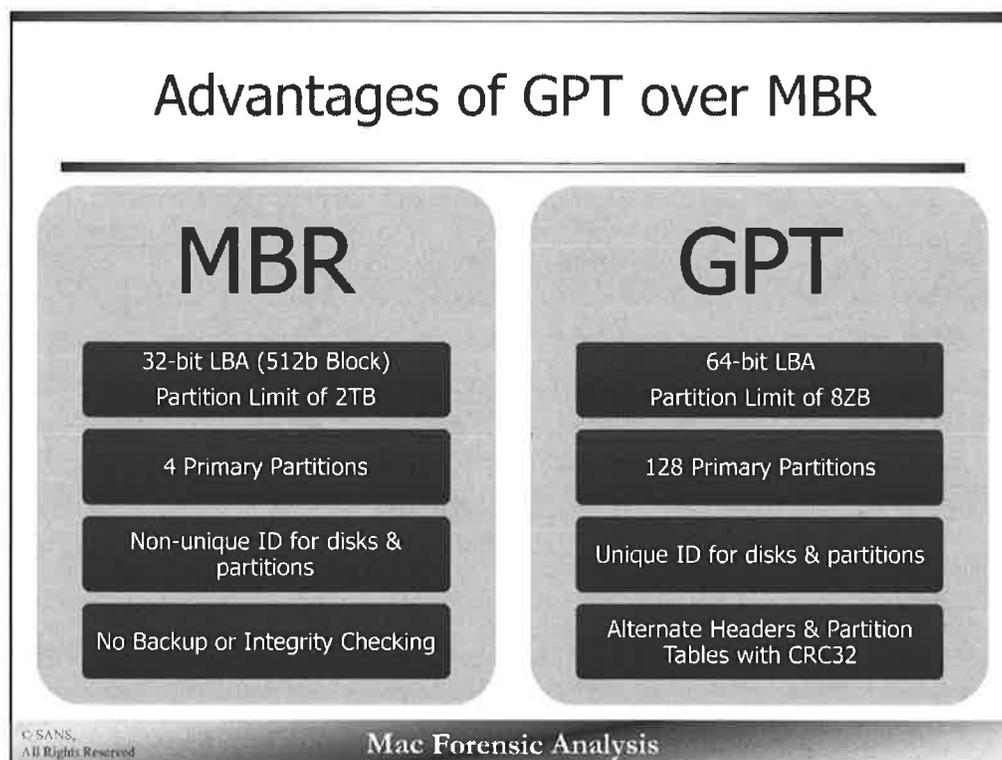
Technical Note 2166 provides information pertaining to GPT used on Mac systems.

#### References:

TN2166 – Secrets of the GPT

[https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/technotes/tn2166/\\_index.html](https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/technotes/tn2166/_index.html)

## Advantages of GPT over MBR



As stated earlier, the switch to GPT to APM was due to limitations such as a limited to a 2TB drive size. The Master Boot Record also had this drive size limit.

There were also limits with the number of partitions. MBR is limited to four primary partitions, while GPT has room for 128 primary partitions.

Other advantages of GPT are the use of unique identification (GUID) for disks and partitions and backups of the GPT header and partition table.

Note:

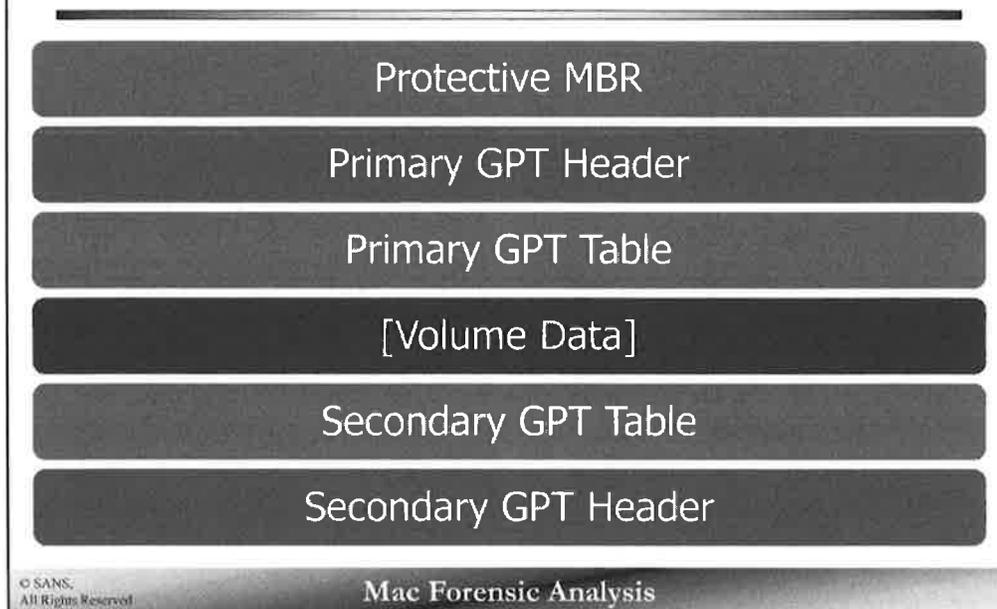
ZB = Zetta Bytes

LBA = Logical Block Addressing

References:

Forensic Analysis of GPT Disks and GUID Partition Tables – Bruce J Nikkel –  
<http://www.digitalforensics.ch/nikkel09.pdf>

## GUID Partition Table



A GUID partition table is comprised of five parts:

- Protective Master Boot Record
- Primary GUID Partition Table Header
- Primary GUID Partition Table
- Secondary GUID Partition Table
- Secondary GUID Partition Table Header

The secondary GPT Header and tables are backups of their primary counterparts.

# sudo gpt -r show [-l] Command

```
byte:~ oompa$ sudo gpt -r show disk0
start      size      index  contents
0           1         1      PMBR
1           1         1      Pri GPT header
2           32        2      Pri GPT table
34          6         6
40          409600   1      GPT part - C12A732B-F81F-11D2-BA4B-00A0C93EC93B
409640     975093952 2      GPT part - 48465300-0000-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC
975503592  1269536   3      GPT part - 426F6F74-0000-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC
976773128  7         7      Sec GPT table
976773135  32        1      Sec GPT header
976773167  1         1      -l disk0
byte:~ oompa$ sudo gpt -r show disk0
start      size      index  contents
0           1         1      PMBR
1           1         1      Pri GPT header
2           32        2      Pri GPT table
34          6         6
40          409600   1      GPT part - "EFI System Partition"
409640     975093952 2      GPT part - "Customer"
975503592  1269536   3      GPT part - "Recovery HD"
976773128  7         7      Sec GPT table
976773135  32        1      Sec GPT header
976773167  1         1
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

## Mac Forensic Analysis

The screenshot above shows the output of the command 'sudo gpt -r show' and the 'sudo gpt -r show -l'.

This command is used to print the **GUID partition table** information for the specified disk. The '-l' option can be used to toggle the display of the **partition label** from the GUID number.

The -r argument is used to show the **GPT information** in a read-only format.

The output of the command contains the **starting sector**, the size of the partition (in sectors), and the contents. The PMBR is the Protective Master Boot **Record**. Note the primary and secondary GPT header and tables.

Each partition type has an associated **GUID** that will be the same across all partitions of the same type.

```

byte:~ oompa$ sudo gpt -r show disk0
start size index contents
0 1 1 PMBR
1 1 1 Pri GPT header
2 1 1 Pri GPT table
34 6 6
40 40 40
409640 975093952 1 GPT part - C12A7328-F81F-11D2-BA4B-00A0C93EC93B
975503592 1269536 2 GPT part - 48465300-0000-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC
976773128 7 3 GPT part - 426F6F74-0000-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC
976773135 32
976773167 1
byte:~ oompa$ sudo gpt -r show -l disk0
start size index contents
0 1 1 PMBR
1 1 1 Pri GPT header
2 1 1 Pri GPT table
34 6 6
40 40 40
409640 975093952 1 GPT part - "EFI System Partition"
975503592 1269536 2 GPT part - "Customer"
976773128 7 3 GPT part - "Recovery HD"
976773135 32
976773167 1
Sec GPT table
Sec GPT header
Sec GPT table

```

# GPT Partition Type GUIDs

**Partition Type GUID** – Unique to Partition Type

**Volume GUID** – Unique Across All Volumes, Globally

Type	GUID
EFI System Partition	C12A7328-F81F-11D2-BA4B-00A0C93EC93B
HFS+ Partition	48465300-0000-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC H F S
Apple Boot Partition	426F6F74-0000-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC B o o t
Apple Core Storage (FileVault)	53746F72-6167-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC S t o r a g
Basic Data Partition (Boot Camp)	EBD0A0A2-B9E5-4433-87C0-68B6B72699C7

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Similar to the MBR, each partition type has its own identifier. GPT uses GUIDs. In the GPT Table example, there were three partitions:

- EFI System Partition - C12A7328-F81F-11D2-BA4B-00A0C93EC93B (EFI System Partition)
- Untitled - 48465300-0000-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC (HFS+ Partition)
- Recovery HD - 426F6F74-0000-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC (Apple Boot Partition)

The Apple created GUIDs contain “hidden” mnemonic type hints.

- HFS+ Partition GUIDs contain the string “HFS”
- Apple Boot Partition GUIDs contain the string “Boot”
- Apple Core Storage Partition GUIDs contain the string “Storag”

More GUID partition types can be found on the Wikipedia article for GUID Partition Table

[[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GUID\\_Partition\\_Table](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GUID_Partition_Table)]

## GPT GUID Format

---

On-Disk Format:

**726F7453-6761-AA11-AA11-00306543ECAC**

Converted Format:

**53746F72-6167-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC**

<b>53746F72</b>	<b>6167</b>	<b>11AA</b>	<b>AA11</b>	<b>00306543ECAC</b>
-----------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	---------------------

Little Endian

Big Endian

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

GPT GUIDs use a combination of little and big endian.

The converted format uses little endian (by byte) for the first three sections of the GUID, while using big endian for the last two.

## Show GPT with The Sleuth Kit (TSK)

```
mm1s <image>
```

```
byte:IMAGES oompa$ mm1s lion_macbook.dmg
GUID Partition Table (EFI)
Offset Sector: 0
Units are in 512-byte sectors
```

	Slot	Start	End	Length	Description
00:	Meta	0000000000	0000000000	0000000001	Safety Table
01:	-----	0000000000	0000000039	0000000040	Unallocated
02:	Meta	0000000001	0000000001	0000000001	GPT Header
03:	Meta	0000000002	0000000033	0000000032	Partition Table
04:	00	0000000040	000409639	000409600	EFI System Partition
05:	01	000409640	0233172071	0232762432	Untitled
06:	02	0233172072	0234441607	0001269536	Recovery HD
07:	-----	0234441608	0234441647	0000000040	Unallocated

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Sleuth Kit (TSK) can be used to review the GPT partition scheme using the `mm1s` command. TSK is a free, open-source tool used to interact with disks, or disk images to provide forensic analysis via the command-line.

In the screenshot above `mm1s` is directed at a DMG image of a MacBook with a Mac OS X Lion installation. The Sleuth Kit calls the Protective MBR the Safety Table.

The Sleuth Kit can be downloaded from <http://sleuthkit.org/>. TSK man pages are located here: <http://www.sleuthkit.org/sleuthkit/man/>.

byte:IMAGES ompa\$ mmls lion\_macbook.dmg

GUID Partition Table (EFI)

Offset Sector: 0

Units are in 512-byte sectors

Slot	Start	End	Length	Description
00: Meta	000000000	000000000	000000001	Safety Table
01: -----	000000000	000000039	000000040	Unallocated
02: Meta	000000001	000000001	000000001	GPT Header
03: Meta	000000002	000000033	000000032	Partition Table
04: 00	000000040	0000409639	0000409600	EFI System Partition
05: 01	0000409640	0233172071	0232762432	Untitled
06: 02	0233172072	0234441607	0001269536	Recovery HD
07: -----	0234441608	0234441647	000000040	Unallocated

## Protective MBR (Safety Table)

LBA 0

Backwards Compatibility

Same Format

- Partition Table - Offset 446
- 4 - 16 byte Partition Entries
  - One Partition Entry – Entire Disk
    - Partition Type:
      - 0xEE (EFI GPT Disk)
      - 0xAF – Apple Mac OS X HFS & HFS+
  - Three Partition Entries – Zeros

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Protective Master Boot Record, or Safety Table as it may be called, is used for backwards compatibility. If the software does not recognize the GPT format, the Protective MBR may be used to safeguard the GPT data.

This MBR uses the same format as any other MBR with the exception that it only has one partition with the partition type 0xEE for EFI GPT Disk. The remaining three primary partitions are left blank.

Typical Mac-related Partition Types:

- 0xAF – Apple Mac OS X HFS & HFS+
- 0xEE – EFI GPT Disk (EFI Protective MBR)

# Protective MBR Example & Format

000	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
022	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
044	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
066	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
088	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
110	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
132	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
154	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
176	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
198	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
220	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
242	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
264	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
286	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
308	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
330	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
352	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
374	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
396	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
418	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
440	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	FE FF FF EE	FE FF FF 00	00 00 AF 4B	F9 00		
462	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
484	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00
506	00 00 00 00	55 AA						

© SANS. All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The format of the highlighted partition entry is shown in the table below. The partition type outlined in the box, 0xEE, is associated with an EFI GPT Disk partition. The size of the partition is 234,441,647 (0xAF4BF90D) in sectors. Note the 0x55AA signature at the bottom. For more information about the Master Boot Record please review book, File System Forensic Analysis by Brian Carrier.

**Note: GPT data uses little-endian**

CHS = Cylinder-Head-Sectors

References:  
File System Forensic Analysis –  
Brian Carrier - p.64, Table 5.2

Offset	Byte(s)	Field
446	1	Bootable Flag <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0x00 = non-bootable</li> <li>• 0x80 = bootable</li> </ul>
447	3	Starting CHS Address (Little Endian)
450	1	Partition Type
451	3	Ending CHS Address (Little Endian)
454	4	Starting LBA Address (Little Endian)
458	4	Size in Sectors (Little Endian)



# GPT Header Example

000	45	46	49	20	50	41	52	54	00	00	01	00	5C	00	00	00	1D	B2	06	32	00	00	00	00	EFI PART	.....\.....2.....
024	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	AF	4B	F9	0D	00	00	00	00	22	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....K....."	
048	8E	4B	F9	0D	00	00	00	00	4D	5B	EB	71	99	57	24	42	9E	64	3A	5F	11	A5	D0	50	.....K.....N[q.W\$B.d:..P	
072	02	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	A6	EA	73	5C	00	00	00	00	.....s\.....	
096	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
120	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
144	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
168	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
192	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
216	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
240	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
264	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
288	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
312	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
336	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
360	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
384	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
408	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
432	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
456	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
480	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	
504	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....	

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved.

Mac Forensic Analysis

The GPT Header is 512 bytes and contains a human-recognizable signature, “EFI PART”. Items of interest include:

- At offset 24, the LBA (Little Endian) of the GPT Header: 1 (0x0100000000000000)
- At offset 32, the LBA (Little Endian) of the alternate GPT header: 234441647 (0xAF4BF90D)
- At offset 56, the unique GUID of this disk:
  - 71EB5B4D-5799-4224-9E64-3A5F11A5D050
- At offset 72, the LBA (Little Endian) of the GUID Partition Table: 2 (0x0200000000000000)

**Note: GPT data uses little-endian**

- GUID Endianess - The first three sections are in little-endian while the last two are not.

Reference:

TN2166 – Secrets of the GPT

[https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/technotes/tn2166/\\_index.html](https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/technotes/tn2166/_index.html)

[http://www.uefi.org/specs/download/2\\_3\\_1\\_ErrataC.pdf](http://www.uefi.org/specs/download/2_3_1_ErrataC.pdf)  
available though <http://www.uefi.org/specs/access>  
(Registration Required)

Section 5.3.2

Offset	Size (bytes)	Field
0	8	Signature (EFI PART)
8	4	Revision (1.0)
12	4	Size of Header (bytes)
16	4	Header CRC32
20	4	Reserved
24	8	LBA of GPT Header
32	8	LBA of Backup GPT Header
40	8	First Usable LBA
48	8	Last Usable LBA
56	16	GUID of Partition
72	8	Starting LBA of GUID Partition Table
80	4	Number of Partition Entries Available
84	4	Size of Partition Entry
88	4	Partition Entry Array CRC32
92	Rest	Reserved



## GPT Table Example

The screenshot shows a GPT table with the following entries:

Offset	Hex Data	ASCII String
00000	28 73 2A C1 1F F8 02 11 BA 48 00 A0 C9 3E C9 3B	(S*.....K...>;
00016	CF A2 13 DE 62 C7 82 4D AE 50 8B 63 C7 7C 4C 36	...b..M.P.c.|L6
00032	28 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 27 48 06 00 00 00 00 00	(.....'@.....
00048	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 45 00 46 00 49 00 20 00	.....E.F.I..
00064	53 00 79 00 73 00 74 00 65 00 6D 00 20 00 50 00	S.y.s.t.e.m. .P.
00080	61 00 72 00 74 00 69 00 74 00 69 00 6F 00 6E 00	o.r.t.i.t.l.o.n.
00096	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00112	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00128	00 53 46 48 00 00 AA 11 AA 11 00 30 65 43 EC AC	.SFH.....0eC..
00144	E5 40 CD 83 CE 72 54 4C AE 90 2C 0D 60 9F 44 64	.@...rTL...'.Dd
00160	28 40 86 00 00 00 00 00 67 EC E5 00 00 00 00 00	@.....g.....
00176	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 55 00 6E 00 74 00 69 00	.....U.n.t.i.
00192	74 00 6C 00 65 00 64 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	t.l.e.d.....
00208	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00224	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00240	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00256	74 6F 6F 42 00 00 AA 11 AA 11 00 30 65 43 EC AC	tooB.....0eC..
00272	28 C7 C9 0C 03 86 9E 4E A5 D7 21 6E 97 90 53 89	(.....N.,In.S.
00288	68 EC E5 0D 00 00 00 00 87 4B F9 00 00 00 00 00	h.....K.....
00304	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 52 00 65 00 63 00 6F 00	.....R.e.c.o.
00320	76 00 65 00 72 00 79 00 20 00 48 00 44 00 00 00	v.e.r.y. .H.D...
00336	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00352	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00368	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....

© SANS. All Rights Reserved  
Mac Forensic Analysis

The GPT Table is made up of an array of partition table entries with the format shown in the table below. In the screenshot above, a line splits each partition entry. The **middle** partition table will be analyzed; this partition entry contains the following items:

At offset 128, the **partition type** GUID is:

48465300-0000-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC  
(0x005346480000AA11AA1100306543ECAC)

This is a unique GUID to this **type** of partition.

At offset 144, the **unique partition** GUID is:

83CD40E5-72CE-4C54-AE90-2C0D609F4464  
(0xE540CD83CE72544CAE902C0D609F4464)

This is a unique GUID only to **this** partition.

At offset 160, the starting LBA is 409640 (0x2840060000000000)

At offset 168, the ending LBA is 233172071 (0x67ECE50D00000000)

At offset 184, the partition name (in Unicode) is 'Untitled' .

Offset	Size (bytes)	Field
0	16	Partition Type GUID
16	16	Unique Partition GUID
32	8	Starting LBA (Little Endian)
40	8	Ending LBA (Little Endian)
48	8	Attributes
56	72	Partition Name
128	Rest	Reserved

### **Note: GPT data uses little-endian**

- GUID Endianess - The first three sections are in little-endian while the last two are not.

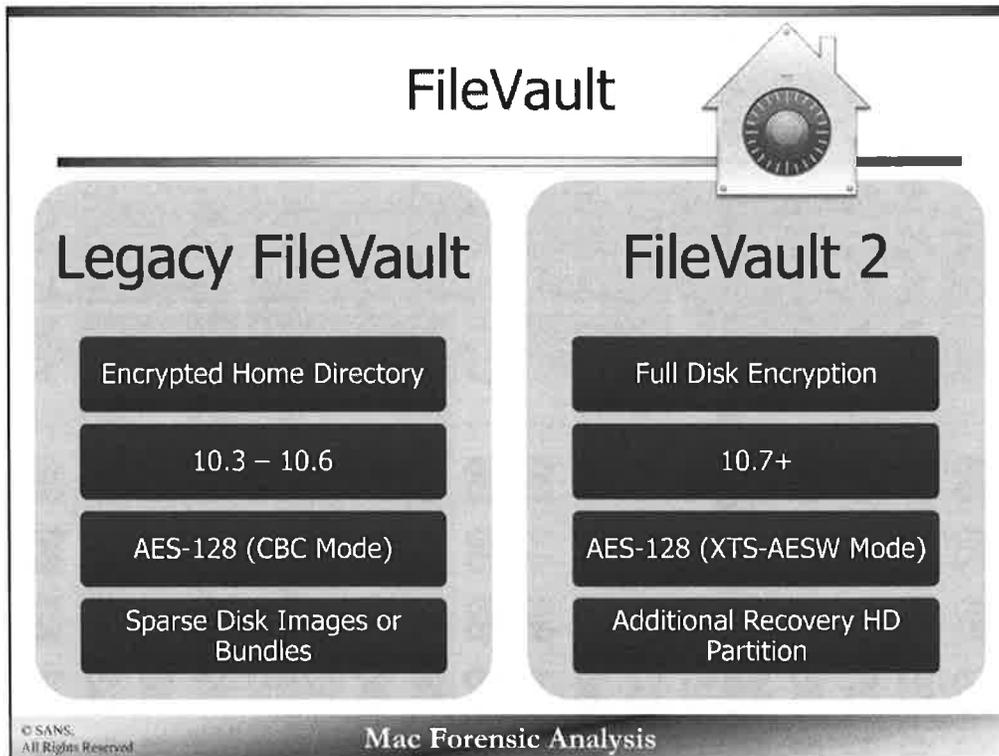
Reference:

TN2166 – Secrets of the GPT

[https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/technotes/tn2166/\\_index.html](https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/technotes/tn2166/_index.html)

[http://www.uefi.org/specs/download/2\\_3\\_1\\_ErrataC.pdf](http://www.uefi.org/specs/download/2_3_1_ErrataC.pdf) available though <http://www.uefi.org/specs/access> (Registration Required)

00000	28	73	2A	C1	1F	F8	D2	11	BA	4B	00	A0	C9	3E	C9	38	(s*.....K...>;
00016	CF	A2	13	DE	62	C7	B2	4D	AE	50	88	63	C7	7C	4C	36	....b..M.P.c.lL6
00032	28	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	27	40	06	00	00	00	00	00	(.....'e.....
00048	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	45	00	46	00	49	00	20	00	.....E.F.I. .
00064	53	00	79	00	73	00	74	00	65	00	6D	00	20	00	50	00	S.y.s.t.e.m. .P.
00080	61	00	72	00	74	00	69	00	74	00	69	00	6F	00	6E	00	a.r.t.i.t.i.o.n.
00096	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
00112	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
00128	00	53	46	48	00	00	AA	11	AA	11	00	30	65	43	EC	AC	.SFH.....0eC...
00144	E5	40	CD	83	CE	72	54	4C	AE	90	2C	0D	60	9F	44	64	.e...rTL.,.`.Dd
00160	28	40	06	00	00	00	00	00	67	EC	E5	0D	00	00	00	00	(e.....g.....
00176	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	55	00	6E	00	74	00	69	00	.....U.n.t.i.
00192	74	00	6C	00	65	00	64	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	t.l.e.d.....
00208	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
00224	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
00240	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
00256	74	6F	6F	42	00	00	AA	11	AA	11	00	30	65	43	EC	AC	tooB.....0eC...
00272	28	C7	C9	0C	03	86	9E	4E	A5	D7	21	6E	97	90	53	B9	(.....N..ln..S.
00288	68	EC	E5	0D	00	00	00	00	87	4B	F9	0D	00	00	00	00	h.....K.....
00304	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	52	00	65	00	63	00	6F	00	.....R.e.c.o.
00320	76	00	65	00	72	00	79	00	20	00	48	00	44	00	00	00	y.e.r.y. .H.D...
00336	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
00352	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
00368	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....



FileVault (now called Legacy FileVault) was introduced in 10.3. FileVault, if implemented, encrypts the home directory of a user. All other user directories and system files remain unencrypted. The encrypted home directory is stored in a sparse disk image, or a sparse bundle.

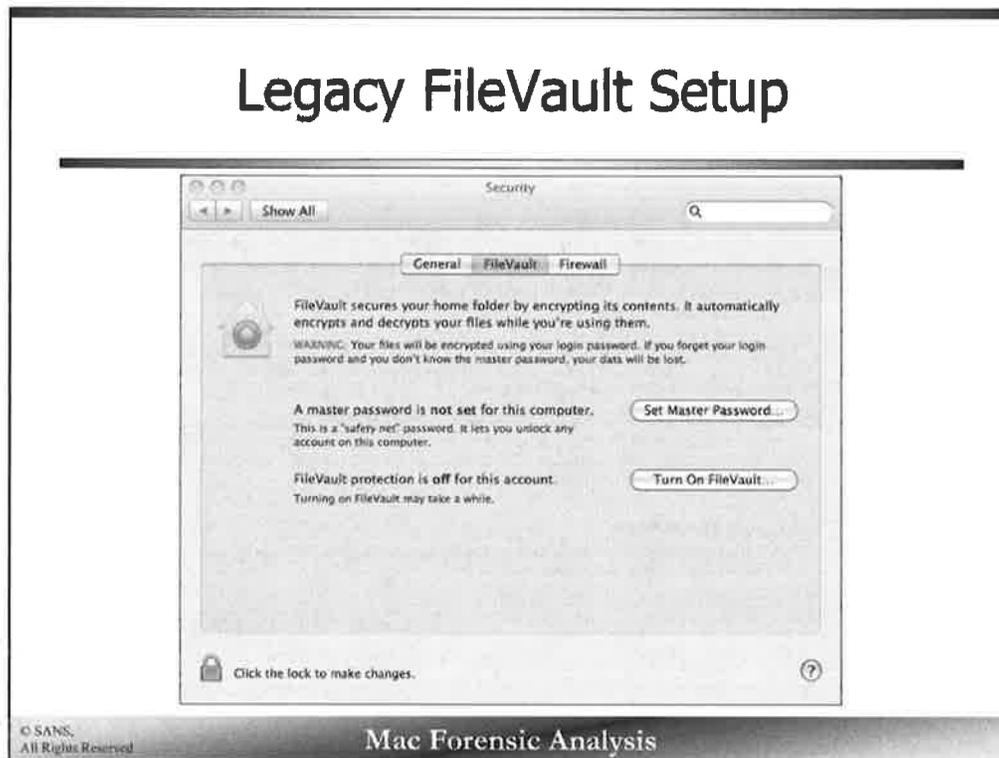
FileVault 2 was introduced in Mac OS X Lion, and encrypts the whole disk, except for EFI and Recovery partitions.

Reference:

OS X: About FileVault 2

[<http://support.apple.com/kb/HT4790>]

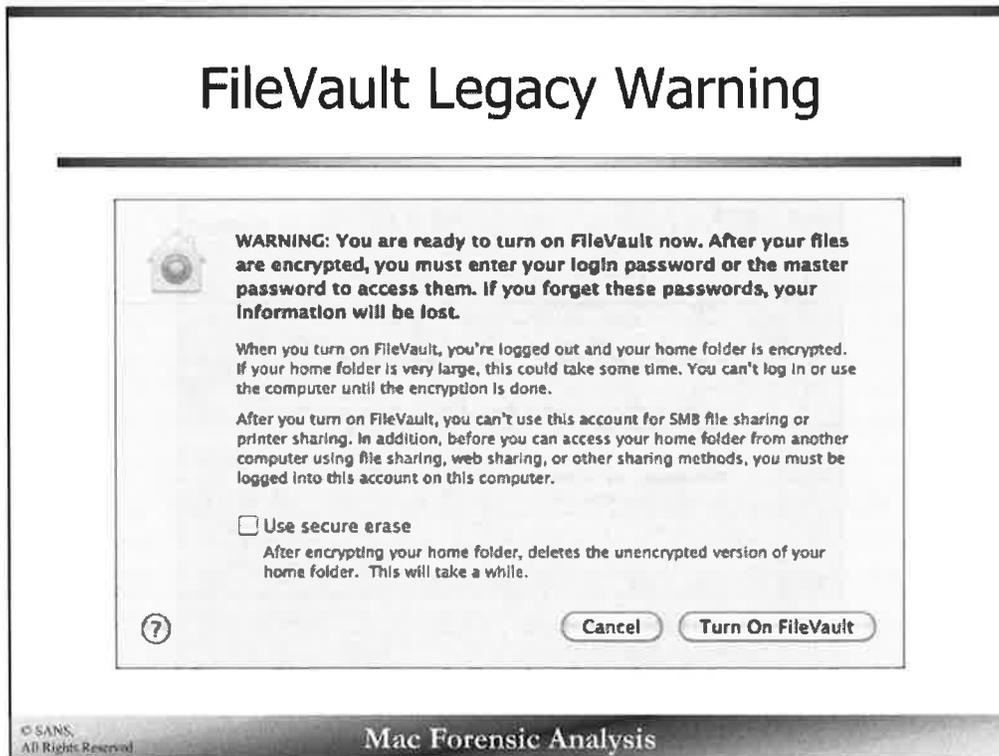
# Legacy FileVault Setup



The screenshot above shows the window a user needs to implement the Legacy FileVault setting.

A master password needs to be set before FileVault can be turned on. This master password is used to decrypt any FileVault volume on the system. You may want to ask for the Master Password in the event you are in an enterprise situation.

# FileVault Legacy Warning

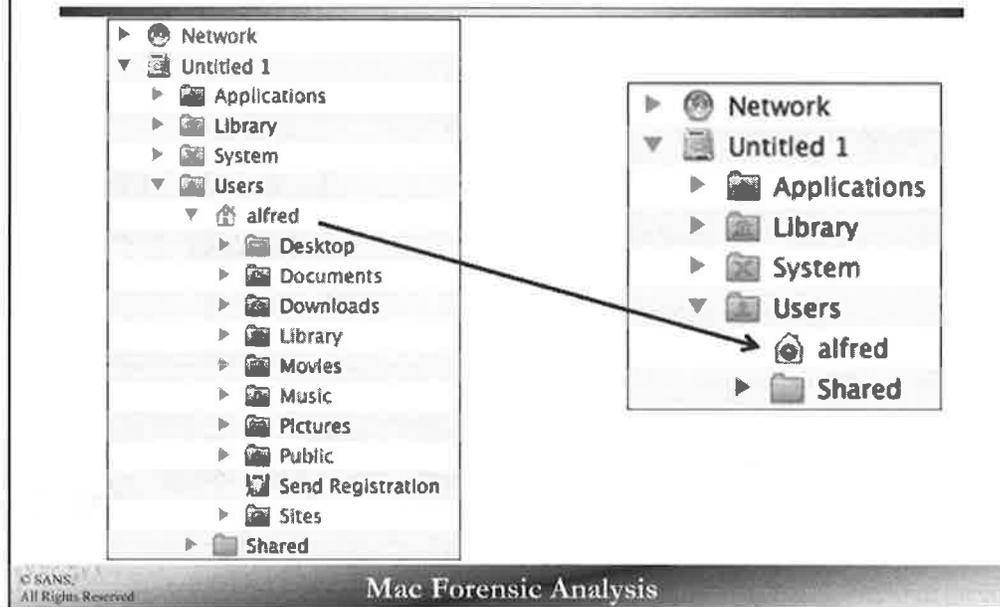


A warning is presented to the user before they are able to turn on FileVault.

A checkbox is enabled for the user to secure erase the disk space after the encryption process takes place.

Note: If the user does not secure erase their home folder, an analyst may be able to carve items from disk free space that would have otherwise been encrypted.

## Home Directory with and without FileVault



Once a user's home directory is encrypted the house icon changes to a locked house icon, shown in the screenshot above. The folder structure of the user can no longer be seen by other users.

# Legacy FileVault

## diskutil list

```
alfreds-macbook:~ alfred$ diskutil list
/dev/disk0
#:          TYPE NAME          SIZE          IDENTIFIER
0:      GUID_partition_scheme  *320.1 GB     disk0
1:          EFI                 209.7 MB      disk0s1
2:      Apple_HFS Untitled 1    319.7 GB      disk0s2
/dev/disk2
#:          TYPE NAME          SIZE          IDENTIFIER
0:  Apple_partition_scheme     *639.5 GB     disk2
1:  Apple_partition_map         32.3 KB       disk2s1
2:      Apple_HFS alfred        639.5 GB      disk2s2
```

User account `alfred` is currently logged in.

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Using the `diskutil list` command from earlier, we can see how it might look if Legacy FileVault is used on a home directory for the user 'alfred'.

Alfred's home directory is now on its own `/dev/disk*`. The size of the drive may be much larger than the size of the hard drive in the system. This is due to how the sparse image/bundle file works.

# Legacy FileVault

## diskutil info

```
alfred@macbook:~ alfred$ diskutil info disk2
Device Identifier:      disk2
Device Node:           /dev/disk2
Part Of Whole:        disk2
Device / Media Name:   Apple sparse bundle disk image Media

Volume Name:
Escaped with Unicode:

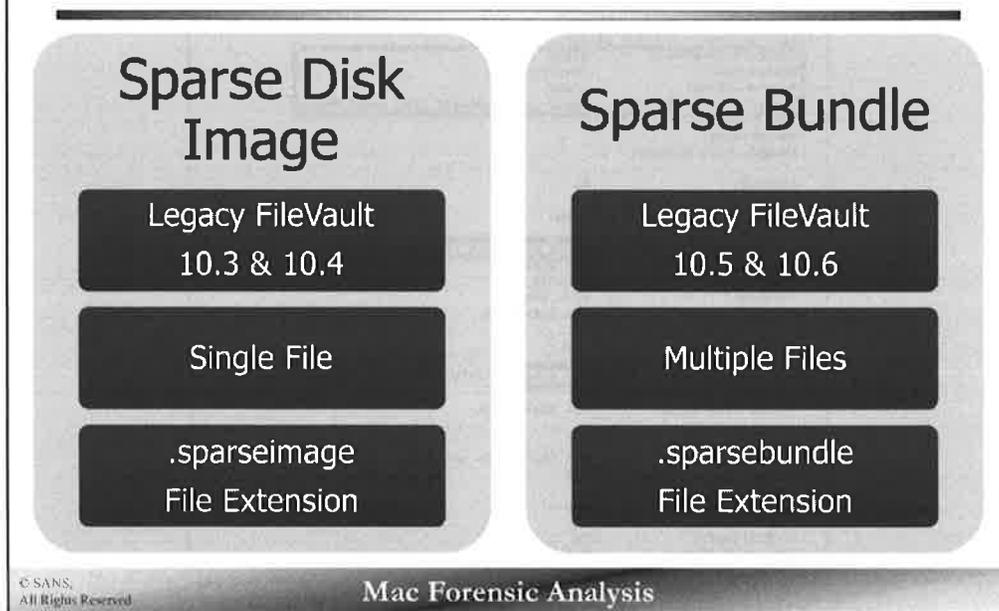
Mounted:               No
File System:          None
Partition Type:       Apple_partition_scheme
Bootable:             Not bootable
Media Type:           Generic
Protocol:             Disk Image
SMART Status:        Not Supported
System Image:         Yes
Total Size:           639.5 GB (639457918976 Bytes) (exactly 1248941248
512-Byte-Blocks)
Volume Free Space:    Not Applicable
Read-Only Media:     No
Read-Only Volume:    Not applicable (no filesystem)
Ejectable:           Yes
Whole:               Yes
Internal:            No
OS 9 Drivers:        No
Low Level Format:    Not Supported
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

If we look at Alfred's home directory from the previous slide using the `diskutil info` command, we can see that it is contained in a sparse bundle disk image.

# Sparse Bundles & Sparse Disk Images



Legacy FileVault implements the Sparse Disk Image and the Sparse Bundle to store encrypted data, these file formats may also be used without the context of FileVault. The Disk Utility.app can be used to create encrypted and unencrypted volumes using these file types.

The Sparse Disk Image is a single file with a `.sparseimage` file extension. The Sparse Bundle file is made up of multiple files (in a software bundle) with the file extension `.sparsebundle`.

These files work by increasing the size of the sparse disk or bundle file/s. When these types of volumes are mounted, their “Virtual Volume” size may be much larger than the size of the hard drive the file is located on.

The size of the files will not be reduced if data is removed, but can be fixed after volume is unmounted by using the command `hdiutil compact`. “Virtual volumes” may be larger than the size on which the volume is physically located.

# Sparse Disk Image

Single file that grows as data is added

File Header "sprs"

```
00000000: 7370 7273 0000 0003 0000 0800 0000 0001 sprs.....
00000010: 0001 3880 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 ..8.....
00000020: 0001 3880 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 ..8.....
00000030: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
00000040: 0000 0001 0000 0002 0000 0014 0000 0026 .....&
00000050: 0000 0027 0000 0028 0000 0005 0000 0003 ...'...'.....
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Sparse Disk Image is made up of one file that grows as data is added. The file has the signature "sprs", as shown in the screenshot above.

# Sparse Bundle

Multiple files that grow as data is added

Uses "bands" to hold data

```
byte:SECTION_1 oompa$ ls -laR sparse_bundle.sparsebundle/
total 16
drwxr-xr-x@ 6 oompa  staff  204 Aug 11 12:33 .
drwxr-xr-x  17 oompa  staff  578 Aug 11 13:17 ..
-rw-r--r--  1 oompa  staff  495 Aug 11 12:21 Info.bckup
-rw-r--r--  1 oompa  staff  495 Aug 11 12:21 Info.plist
drwxr-xr-x  5 oompa  staff  178 Aug 11 12:21 bands
-rw-r--r--  1 oompa  staff   0 Aug 11 12:21 token

sparse_bundle.sparsebundle//bands:
total 30920
drwxr-xr-x  5 oompa  staff   178 Aug 11 12:21 .
drwxr-xr-x@ 6 oompa  staff   204 Aug 11 12:33 ..
-rw-r--r--  1 oompa  staff 4689920 Aug 11 12:33 0
-rw-r--r--  1 oompa  staff 3735552 Aug 11 12:21 2
-rw-r--r--  1 oompa  staff 7405568 Aug 11 12:21 4
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Sparse Bundle file is comprised of multiple files that grow as data is added to the volume. These files are called "bands". These "bands" are located in a "Bundle".

A bundle is a directory that contains files, executable, and/or other resources in one easy to move file. Any application on a Mac system is a "bundle".

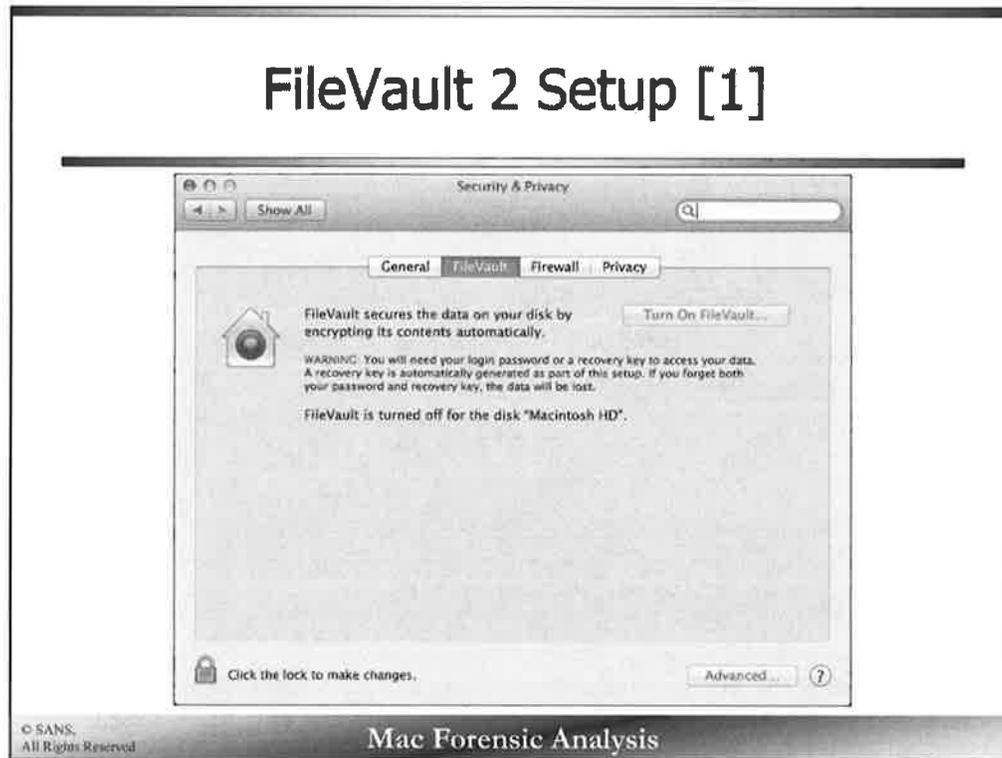
Each Sparse Bundle has an `Info.plist` file located within the bundle. This property list file contains the size of the bands, and the original size of the bundle, whether or not it is at capacity. Sizes are in bytes.

Reference:

Mac Developer Library – Cocoa Core Competencies

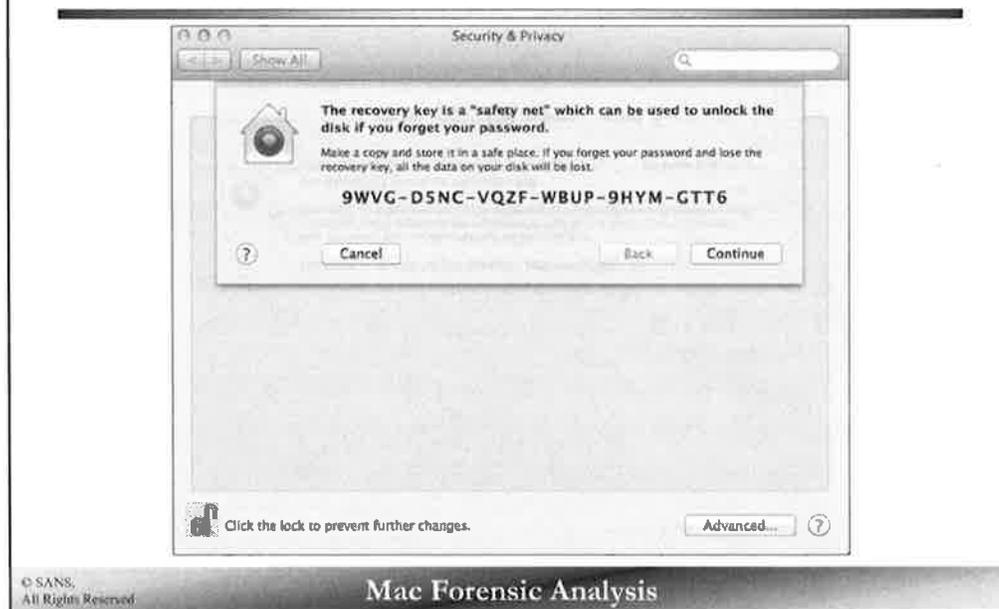
[<https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/#documentation/General/Conceptual/DevPedia-CocoaCore/Bundle.html>]

# FileVault 2 Setup [1]



FileVault 2 uses a similar setup screen shown above.

## FileVault 2 Setup [2]



Before the encryption process takes place, the setup will display a recovery key that the user can choose to store with Apple. This recovery key can be used to recover a FileVault 2 encrypted volume.

# GPT FileVault 2 Example

## diskutil list

### No FileVault

```
nibble:~ sledwards$ diskutil list
/dev/disk0
#:  
0:      GUID_partition_scheme      *121.3 GB   disk0  
1:      EFI                        209.7 MB   disk0s1  
2:      Apple_HFS Macintosh HD      120.5 GB   disk0s2  
3:      Apple_Boot Recovery HD      650.0 MB   disk0s3
```

### FileVault Enabled

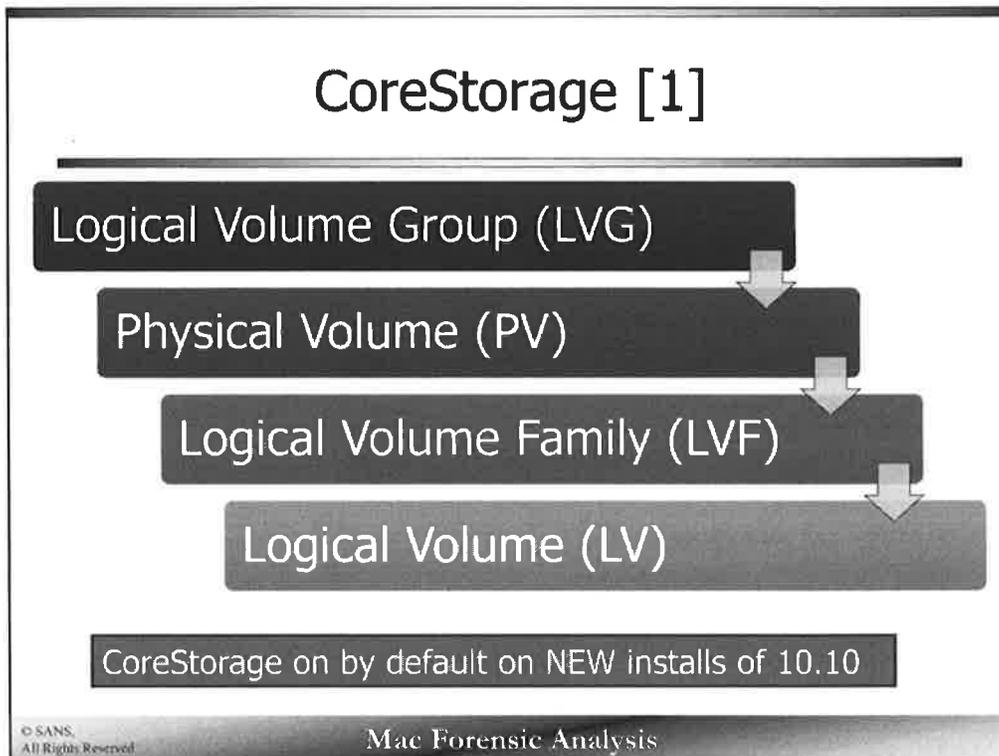
```
word:~ oompas$ diskutil list
/dev/disk0
#:  
0:      GUID_partition_scheme      *500.3 GB   disk0  
1:      EFI EFI                      209.7 MB   disk0s1  
2:      Apple_CoreStorage           499.4 GB   disk0s2  
3:      Apple_Boot Recovery HD      650.0 MB   disk0s3  
/dev/disk1
#:  
0:      Apple_HFS Yosemite           *499.1 GB   disk1  
        Logical Volume on disk0s2  
        33F6B43B-7A75-4B04-A04D-0AC6A4321BF5  
        Unlocked Encrypted
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

In the top example, the screenshot shows the output of the `diskutil list` command on a disk that does not have FileVault 2 enabled.

The bottom example shows the same disk with FileVault 2 enabled. Note the addition of the `Apple_CoreStorage` partition and how “Macintosh HD” is now on `/dev/disk1`. The Apple CoreStorage partition is the encrypted partition of the FileVault volume on `/dev/disk1`.



CoreStorage is Apple’s version of logical volume management – or “virtual volumes”. Used with FileVault2 Full Disk Encryption and Fusion Drives.

Logical Volume Group (LVG) – The top level, associated with a specific Physical Volume.

Physical Volume (PV) - The physical disk, or disk image.

Logical Volume Family (LVF) – Contains one or more Logical Volumes.

Logical Volume (LV) – Where the file system is stored on a `/dev/disk*`.

As of 10.10, CoreStorage is now implemented by default on new installs of 10.10. Upgraded installs will not force CoreStorage to be implemented. This does not necessarily mean the volume is encrypted. CoreStorage can still be used without FileVault2.

References:

`diskutil manpage`

## CoreStorage [2]

### diskutil cs list

```
nibble:/stefw@rd$ diskutil cs list
CoreStorage logical volume groups (1 found)
|
+-- Logical Volume Group 068CB516-9C26-493A-9967-FC7977FE6855
|-----|
| Name:          Macintosh HD
| Status:        Online
| Size:          499418834176 B (499.4 GB)
| Free Space:    16777216 B (16.8 MB)
|-----|
| +-- Physical Volume CAD328AC-A06F-466C-9145-5A312C7B2C83
|-----|
| | Index:        0
| | Disk:         disk0s2
| | Status:       Online
| | Size:         499418834176 B (499.4 GB)
|-----|
| +-- Logical Volume Family E4A6F218-0490-424C-AF11-4C28E052F5B
|-----|
| | Encryption Status:  Unlocked
| | Encryption Type:    AES-XTS
| | Conversion Status:  Complete
| | Conversion Direction: -none-
| | Has Encrypted Extents: Yes
| | Fully Secure:       Yes
| | Passphrase Required: Yes
|-----|
| +-- Logical Volume DD650536-C674-48DD-8D9E-9EE8FE857EE
|-----|
| | Disk:              disk1
| | Status:            Online
| | Size (Total):      499082485760 B (499.1 GB)
| | Conversion Progress: -none-
| | Revertible:        Yes (unlock and decryption required)
| | LV Name:           Macintosh HD
| | Volume Name:       Macintosh HD
| | Content Hint:      Apple_HFS
|-----|
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The screenshot shows the output from the `diskutil cs list` command. This command lists all the CoreStorage Logical Volume Groups.

This system has only one LVG for a 499.4GB physical disk. Each part (LVG, PV, LVF, LV) has their own UUID.

We can see from the information found in the LVF section, that this disk is encrypted with AES-XTS (FileVault2).

We can see from the information found in the LV section, this disk is currently unlocked, and could be decrypted if needed. The volume is named "Macintosh HD" and is 499.1GB is size.

```

nibble:/ sledwards$ diskutil cs list
CoreStorage logical volume groups (1 found)
|
+-- Logical Volume Group 068CB516-9C26-493A-9967-FC7977FE6855
=====
Name:          Macintosh HD
Status:        Online
Size:          499418034176 B (499.4 GB)
Free Space:    16777216 B (16.8 MB)
|
+--< Physical Volume CAD328AC-A06F-466C-9145-5A312C7B2C83
-----
|   Index:      0
|   Disk:       disk0s2
|   Status:     Online
|   Size:       499418034176 B (499.4 GB)
|
+--> Logical Volume Family E4A6F218-0490-424C-AF11-4C208E052F5B
-----
Encryption Status:    Unlocked
Encryption Type:      AES-XTS
Conversion Status:    Complete
Conversion Direction: -none-
Has Encrypted Extents: Yes
Fully Secure:         Yes
Passphrase Required:  Yes
|
+--> Logical Volume DD650536-C674-4BDD-BD9E-9EEB8FE857EE
-----
Disk:          disk1
Status:        Online
Size (Total):  499082485760 B (499.1 GB)
Conversion Progress: -none-
Revertible:    Yes (unlock and decryption required)
LV Name:       Macintosh HD
Volume Name:   Macintosh HD
Content Hint:  Apple_HFS

```

# Boot Camp & FileVault GPT Example



```
gpt show: /dev/disk0: Suspicious MBR at sector 0
  start      size  index  contents
    0         1     1     MBR
    1         1     1     Pri GPT header
    2         32    2     Pri GPT table
    34         6     3
    40        409600 1     GPT part - C12A7328-F81F-11D2-BA4B-00A0C93EC93B
  409640    8775752 2     GPT part - 53746F72-6167-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC
  877985392 1269544 3     GPT part - 426F6F74-0000-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC
  879254936 97850888 4     GPT part - EBD0A0A2-B9E5-4433-87C0-68B6B72699C7
  977105024 3
  977105027 32     Sec GPT table
  977105059 1     Sec GPT header
```

```
gpt show: /dev/disk0: Suspicious MBR at sector 0
  start      size  index  contents
    0         1     1     MBR
    1         1     1     Pri GPT header
    2         32    2     Pri GPT table
    34         6     3
    40        409600 1     GPT part - "EFI System Partition"
  409640    8775752 2     GPT part - "Lion"
  877985392 1269544 3     GPT part - "Recovery HD"
  879254936 97850888 4     GPT part - "BOOTCAMP"
  977105024 3
  977105027 32     Sec GPT table
  977105059 1     Sec GPT header
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

In the screenshots above, there is an example of a Boot Camp partition and a FileVault encrypted partition. This is the same disk with the '-l' option of the gpt command used in the bottom example.

- Boot Camp Volume GUID: EBD0A0A2-B9E5-4433-87C0-68B6B72699C7
- FileVault Volume GUID: 53746F72-6167-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC

The "Suspicious MBR at sector 0" message shown in the screenshots above validate that it is in fact a boot camped system. When a system is boot camped, meaning it has both an bootable OS X volume and a bootable Windows volume, it writes multiple entries to the MBR making it "suspicious".

gpt show: /dev/disk0: Suspicious MBR at sector 0

start	size	index	contents
0	1		MBR
1	1		Pri GPT header
2	32		Pri GPT table
34	6		
40	409600	1	GPT part - C12A7328-F81F-11D2-BA4B-00A0C93EC93B
409640	877575752	2	GPT part - 53746F72-6167-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC
877985392	1269544	3	GPT part - 426F6F74-0000-11AA-AA11-00306543ECAC
879254936	97850088	4	GPT part - EBD0A0A2-B9E5-4433-87C0-68B6B72699C7
977105024	3		
977105027	32		Sec GPT table
977105059	1		Sec GPT header

gpt show: /dev/disk0: Suspicious MBR at sector 0

start	size	index	contents
0	1		MBR
1	1		Pri GPT header
2	32		Pri GPT table
34	6		
40	409600	1	GPT part - "EFI System Partition"
409640	877575752	2	GPT part - "Lion"
877985392	1269544	3	GPT part - "Recovery HD"
879254936	97850088	4	GPT part - "BOOTCAMP"
977105024	3		
977105027	32		Sec GPT table
977105059	1		Sec GPT header

# Fusion Drive

Hybrid Drive

Hard Disk Drive + Solid State Drive

Size & Speed

Implements CoreStorage

- Combined to create a single volume

Most accessed files located on SSD

Mac mini & iMac Systems

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

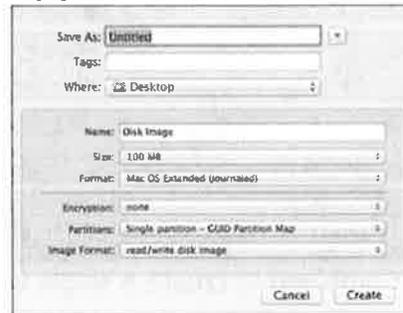
The Fusion Drive comes with only a few specific systems; late model MacMinis and iMacs.

These drives use a combination of a normal hard disk drive and a solid state drive to get the best of speed and drive size.

To create a present a single volume to the user, CoreStorage is implemented. The most used files are located on the physical SSD hard drive to speed up file access.

## Disk Image (.dmg)

- Create with `Disk Utility.app` or `hdiutil`
- Any Size
- Formats:
  - Mac OS Extended
  - FAT
  - ExFAT (over 32GB)
- May configure with encryption, partitions, and image formats



© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Likely the most well known volume is the DMG file, or Disk Image file. Mac systems use this format for everything from software installation to simple data archives.

Disk Image files can be any size and any format that `hdiutil` or `Disk Utility.app` can implement; HFS+, FAT or ExFAT.

These volumes can mix and match various types of encryption, partitions and image formats. Please refer to the options listed using the command `hdiutil create -help` or review the options in `Disk Utility.app`.

# hdiutil imageinfo \*.dmg

- Rename .dd to .dmg
  - Image Size
  - Compression Data
  - Image Format
  - Location
  - Detailed Partition Information
  - Resizing Information

```
hdiutil imageinfo *.dmg
Backing Store Information:
URL: file:///local/next/next/next/next
Name: fdisk
Class Name: CheckBackingStore
Class Name: CheckBackingStore
Checksum Type: none
Size Information:
Total Bytes: 5081076976
Compressed Ratio: 1
Sector Count: 97472100
Total Non-Empty Bytes: 5081076976
Compressed Bytes: 5081076976
Total Empty Bytes: 0
Format: UDRW
Format Description: raw-read/write
Checksum Value:
Properties:
  Encrypted: false
  Verbose Computable: false
  Checksummed: false
  Software License Agreement: false
  Partitioned: false
  Compressed: no
Segments:
  0: /dev/disk0
Partitions:
  partition-name: GUID
  block-size: 512
  partitions:
    0:
      partition-name: Protective Master Boot Record
      partition-start: 0
      partition-synchronized: true
      partition-length: 1
      partition-hint: MSR
    1:
      partition-name: EFI Header
      partition-start: 1
      partition-synchronized: true
      partition-length: 1
      partition-hint: Primary EFI Header
    2:
      partition-name: EFI Partition Data
      partition-start: 2
      partition-synchronized: true
      partition-length: 10
      partition-hint: Primary EFI Table
    3:
      partition-name:
      partition-start: 36
      partition-synchronized: true
      partition-length: 0
      partition-hint: Apple Free
    4:
      partition-uuid: 0312EABF-0047-668C-0030-0030EFC471F
      partition-name: EFI System Partition
      partition-uuid-uuid: C12A7328-F81F-11D2-B440-00047602B300
      partition-length: 80
      partition-number: 1
      partition-length: 80000
      partition-name: 132A7328-F81F-11D2-B440-00047602B300
      partition-fat32-size-time:
      FAT32: 872
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The `hdiutil` command is used to interface with disk image files (\*.dmg) or disk device (/dev/disk#).

This command must be run with a \*.dmg file, if you have a raw DD file you can add a .dmg extension.

The `imageinfo` parameter is used to display information about the disk image. (Due to the verbose output the screenshot had to be shortened to fit on the slide.)

Information that can be gleaned from an image include:

- Image Size (in bytes)
- Data about the compression, this image was not compressed.
- Image Format – this example is labeled UDRW or RAW Read/Write
  - A list of formats can be viewed in the man page for `hdiutil`
- Image location
- Detailed Partition Information
  - Partition Name
  - Start Block
  - Length (in blocks)
  - Partition Hint – Type of Partition
  - Partition Hint UUID (unique to type of partition)
  - Partition UUID (unique to partition)
  - File System (HFS+, FAT32, etc.)
- Image file resizing information - Can be used to shrink a volume

```

byte:Macintosh HD 2012-06-14 07-36-02 oompas hdiutil imageinfo /dev/disk0
Backing Store Information:
  URL: file://localhost/dev/rdisk0
  Name: rdisk0
  Class Name: CDevBackingStore
Class Name: CRawDiskImage
Checksum Type: none
Size Information:
  Total Bytes: 500107862016
  Compressed Ratio: 1
  Sector Count: 976773168
  Total Non-Empty Bytes: 500107862016
  Compressed Bytes: 500107862016
  Total Empty Bytes: 0
Format: RAW*
Format Description: raw read/write
Checksum Value:
Properties:
  Encrypted: false
  Kernel Compatible: false
  Checksummed: false
  Software License Agreement: false
  Partitioned: false
  Compressed: no
Segments:
  0: /dev/rdisk0
partitions:
  partition-scheme: GUID
  block-size: 512
  partitions:
    0:
      partition-name: Protective Master Boot Record
      partition-start: 0
      partition-synthesized: true
      partition-length: 1
      partition-hint: MBR
    1:
      partition-name: GPT Header
      partition-start: 1
      partition-synthesized: true
      partition-length: 1
      partition-hint: Primary GPT Header
    2:
      partition-name: GPT Partition Data
      partition-start: 2
      partition-synthesized: true
      partition-length: 32
      partition-hint: Primary GPT Table
    3:
      partition-name:
      partition-start: 34
      partition-synthesized: true
      partition-length: 6
      partition-hint: Apple_Free
    4:
      partition-UUID: D97CE46F-D267-440E-8D20-8930EFCA721F
      partition-name: EFI System Partition
      partition-hint-UUID: C12A7328-F81F-11D2-BA4B-00A0C93EC93B
      partition-start: 40
      partition-number: 1
      partition-length: 409600
      partition-hint: C12A7328-F81F-11D2-BA4B-00A0C93EC93B
      partition-fileSystems:
        FAT32: EFI

```



---

## Exercise 1.2 – Disks & Partitions

---

This page intentionally left blank.

# Agenda

---

Part 1 – Mac Fundamentals

Part 2 – Acquisition & Live Response

Part 3 – Disks & Partitions

Part 4 – HFS+ File System

Part 5 – Mounting Disk Images

Part 6 – BlackLight 101

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

This page intentionally left blank.



---

# Section 1 – Part 4

## HFS+

---

This page intentionally left blank.

## Mac OS Extended File System (HFS Plus or HFS+)

---

- Hierarchical File System
- Introduced in Mac OS 8.1 (~1998)
- TN1150
- Big Endian
- HFS+ (Mac OS) Timestamps
  - Number of Seconds since 1/1/1904 00:00:00 UTC
  - 32-bit Unsigned Integer

© SANS, All Rights Reserved Mac Forensic Analysis

The Mac OS Extended File System is more widely known as Hierarchical File System (HFS+), or HFS Plus. HFS+ was introduced when HFS (Mac OS Standard File System) was limiting the size of the installation media. HFS+ is able to install on larger volumes, have longer filenames, larger file sizes, and more file metadata.

This file system was introduced in Mac OS 8.1, long before Mac OS X.

A very well known Technical Note (at least to nerdy Mac forensicators) is TN1150, the HFS Plus Volume Format. This document explains the technical intricacies of the HFS+ file system and goes into great detail. The document can be found in the Mac Developer Library.

[<https://developer.apple.com/legacy/library/technotes/tn/tn1150> or  
<http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html>]

**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

TN1150 will be used as the main reference for the HFS+ file system module of this class.

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

## HFS+ Volume Header & "Special Files"

Volume Header (Alternate Volume Header)	• Information about the volume
Allocation File	• Tracks Allocation Blocks
Catalog File	• File/Folder Structure & Metadata
Extents Overflow File	• Additional Extent Information
Attributes File	• Additional Metadata
Startup File	• Helps non-Mac OS Volumes boot

© SANS, All Rights Reserved **Mac Forensic Analysis**

HFS+ is comprised of five "special files" and the HFS+ volume header.

The special files are:

- Allocation File
- Catalog File
- Extents Overflow File
- Attributes File
- Startup File

References:

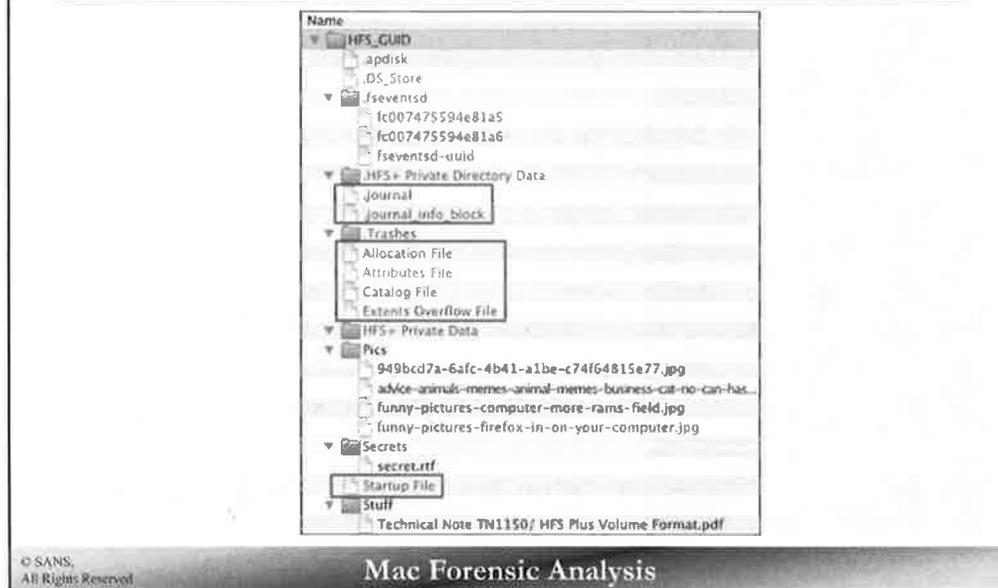
Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# HFS+ "GPT .dmg" Disk Example



The screenshot shows our example disk image file, GPT .dmg that we will use in class.

The GPT.dmg disk was opened in the forensic software Blacklight to show all the files on the disk.

Highlighted in the boxes are the HFS+ Special Files and the Journal files:

- Allocation File
- Attributes File
- Catalog File
- Extents Overflow File
- Startup File
- Journal Files (.journal and .journal\_info\_block)

These files are not normally accessible by the user, hence they are greyed out in the screenshot above.

We will be looking at these files in detail in the next few sections.

This disk contains a volume (partition) named "HFS\_GUID" that contains three user-created directories containing files; Pics, Secrets, and Stuff.

# Volume Header

Contains data such as:

- Signature (H+)
- HFS+ Version
- Volume Creation, Modified, Backup & Checked Dates
- File & Folder Count
- Block Size
- Finder Information
- Location of other HFS+ Files

Located 1024 bytes from beginning of the volume

Alternate Volume Header located 1024 bytes from the end of the volume

512 bytes in length

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The volume header is located 1024 bytes from the beginning of the volume, while the alternate volume header is located 1024 bytes from the end of the volume. The volume header itself is 512 bytes in size.

The volume header contains information about the volume and the locations of each of the HFS+ “special files”.

## References:

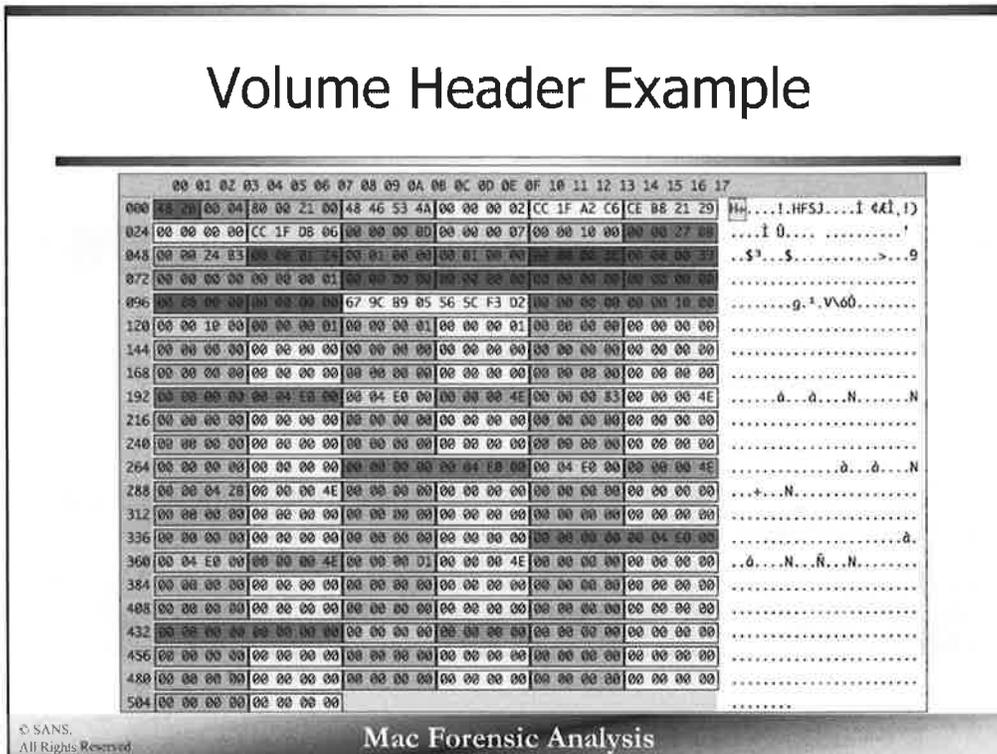
Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Volume Header Example



The volume header contains the following notable fields:

- Offset 0 - The signature for the file system, H+ for HFS+. You may also see HX, for HFS+ with case sensitivity, on iOS devices.
- Offset 16 – The volume’s creation date. (Stored in local time)
- Offset 20 – Last modification date of the volume. (Stored in GMT)
- Offset 32 – Number of files on the volume.
- Offset 36– Number of folders on the volume.
- Offset 40 – Allocation Block Size (4096 bytes)
- Offset 112 – Location and size of Allocation File.
- Offset 192 – Location and size of Extents Overflow File.
- Offset 272 – Location and size of Catalog File.
- Offset 352 – Location and size of Attributes File.
- Offset 432 – Location and size of Startup File.

**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

Note: Only the Volume Creation Date stored as local time, all other dates in the volume header are stored as GMT.

This screenshot was created with the Synalyze It! Application.

Offset	Size (in bytes)	Data
0	2	Signature
2	2	Version
4	4	Attributes
8	4	Last Mounted Version
12	4	Journal Info Block
16	4	Create Date
20	4	Modify Date
24	4	Backup Date
28	4	Checked Date
32	4	File Count
36	4	Folder Count
40	4	Block Size
44	4	Total Blocks
48	4	Free Blocks
52	4	Next Allocation
56	4	rsrc Clump Size
60	4	Data Clump Size
64	4	Next Catalog ID
68	4	Write Count
72	8	Encoding Bitmap
80	4	Finder Info Array [0]
84	4	Finder Info Array [1]
88	4	Finder Info Array [2]
92	4	Finder Info Array [3]
96	4	Finder Info Array [4]
100	4	Finder Info Array [5]
104	4	Finder Info Array [6]
108	4	Finder Info Array [7]
112	80	Allocation File Size & Location
192	80	Extents File Size & Location
272	80	Catalog File Size & Location
352	80	Attributes File Size & Location
432	80	Startup File Size & Location

The “size and location” field of each of the HFS+ Special Files have the format shown in the table. Each entry consists of a logical size, a clump size, total number of blocks and an array containing the size and length of each extent of the file. If there are more than eight extents, it will be located in the Extents Overflow File.

Offset	Size (in bytes)	Data
0	8	Logical Size
8	4	Clump Size
12	4	Total Blocks
16	4	Extent 1 – Start Block
20	4	Extent 1 – Block Count
24	4	Extent 2 – Start Block
28	4	Extent 2 – Block Count
32	4	Extent 3 – Start Block
36	4	Extent 3 – Block Count
40	4	Extent 4 – Start Block
44	4	Extent 4 – Block Count
48	4	Extent 5 – Start Block
52	4	Extent 5 – Block Count
56	4	Extent 6 – Start Block
60	4	Extent 6 – Block Count
64	4	Extent 7 – Start Block
68	4	Extent 7 – Block Count
72	4	Extent 8 – Start Block
76	4	Extent 8 – Block Count

### HFS+ Dates & Times

The dates and times in HFS+ are unique to HFS. This value represents the number of seconds since 1/1/1904 at midnight or 00:00:00.

### **Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple’s Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E	0F	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
000	48	28	00	04	80	00	21	00	48	46	53	4A	00	00	00	02	CC	1F	A2	C6	CE	B8	21	29	H+...!.HFSJ...!ϕ!;!)
024	00	00	00	00	CC	1F	DB	06	00	00	00	0D	00	00	00	07	00	00	10	00	00	00	27	08	...! Û.....'
048	00	00	24	B3	00	00	01	24	00	01	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	00	3E	00	00	00	39	..\$³...\$.>...9
072	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
096	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	67	9C	B9	05	56	5C	F3	D2	00	00	00	00	00	00	10	00	.....g.1.V60.....
120	00	00	10	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
144	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
168	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
192	00	00	00	00	00	04	E0	00	00	04	E0	00	00	00	00	4E	00	00	00	83	00	00	00	4E	.....â...â...N.....N
216	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
240	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
264	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	04	E0	00	00	04	E0	00	00	00	00	4E	.....â...â...N
288	00	00	04	2B	00	00	00	4E	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....+.N.....
312	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
336	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	04	E0	.....â
360	00	04	E0	00	00	00	00	4E	00	00	00	D1	00	00	00	4E	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....â...N...Ñ...N.....
384	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
408	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
432	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
456	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
480	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
504	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....

Pos...	Off...	Element	Value
0	0	▼ HFS+ Volume Header [0]	
0	0	Disk Signature	H+
2	+2	Version	4
4	+4	Attributes	80 00 21 00
8	+8	Last Mounted Version	HFSJ
12	+12	Journal Info Block	2
16	+16	Create Date	3424625350
20	+20	Modify Date	3468173609
24	+24	Backup Date	0
28	+28	Checked Date	3424639750
32	+32	File Count	13
36	+36	Folder Count	7
40	+40	Block Size	4096
44	+44	Total Blocks	9995
48	+48	Free Blocks	9395
52	+52	Next Allocation	292
56	+56	RSRC Clump Size	65536
60	+60	Data Clump Size	65536
64	+64	Next Catalog ID	62
68	+68	Write Count	57
72	+72	Encoding Bitmap	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01
80	+80	Finder Info Array [0]	0
84	+84	Finder Info Array [1]	0
88	+88	Finder Info Array [2]	0
92	+92	Finder Info Array [3]	0
96	+96	Finder Info Array [4]	0
100	+100	Finder Info Array [5]	0
104	+104	VSDB Volume ID Finder Info Array [6,7]	0x679CB905565CF3D2
112	+112	► ForkData [0]	
192	+192	► ForkData [1]	
272	+272	► ForkData [2]	
352	+352	► ForkData [3]	
432	+432	► ForkData [4]	

# Parse Volume Header with hdiutil fsid \*.dmg or /dev/disk\*

```
Analyzing partition 4: disk image Apple_HFS
HFS+
Volume size                0x02700000 (40039520) bytes [39.0 MB]
min stretch size          0x00070000 (00000000) bytes [0.5 MB]
max stretch size          0x00000000 (134217720) bytes [128 MB]
current free space         0x02403000 (30401920) bytes [28.7 MB]
allocation blocks          0x00002200 (09955)
block size                  0x00001000 (4096) bytes [4 KB]
post-al-block space        0x00000000 (0) sectors
VH (sector 2)
Signature                   30
Version                     0x0000
Attributes                   0x00002100
LastMountedVersion           0x40403360 (HFS+)
JournalInfoBlock             0x00000000
CreateDate                   0xC1A22C5 7/9/12, 8:49:10 PM EDT
ModifyDate                   0xCE02120 11/24/13, 9:33:20 PM GMT
BackupDate                   0x00000000 1/1/04, 12:00:00 AM GMT
CheckedDate                  0xC1F0000 7/9/12, 12:49:10 AM GMT
FileCount                    0x00000000
FolderCount                  0x00000047
BlockSize                    0x00001000
TotalBlocks                  0x00002700
FreeBlocks                   0x00002400
NextAllocation               0x00000124
RsrcClumpSize                0x00010000
DataClumpSize                0x00010000
NextDataLogID               0x0000003E
WriteCount                   0x0000003E
EncodingScheme               0x0000000000000001
FinderInfo
0                               0 Blessed folder directory ID
1                               0
2                               0 Open folder directory ID
3                               0 Mac OS 9 blessed folder directory ID
4                               0
5                               0 Mac OS X blessed folder directory ID
VSDB Volume ID               0x0790C0905505CF3D2
AllocationFile                0x00000000000001000
LogicalSize                  0x00001000
ClumpSize                    0x00000001
TotalBlocks                  startBlock blockCount
Extents                      0x00000001 0x00000001
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

An easy way to view the volume header is to use the `hdiutil fsid` command on a DMG file or on a disk using `/dev/disk*`. This is the volume header information for `GPT.dmg`.

This command must be run with a `*.dmg` file, if you have a raw DD file you can add a `.dmg` extension.

Due to its verbosity, only a section of this output is shown.

Reference:

[hdiutil Man Page](#)

Analyzing partition 4: disk image Apple\_HFS

HFS+

volume size 0x0270B000 (40939520) bytes [39.0 MB]  
 min stretch size 0x0087D000 (8900608) bytes [8.5 MB]  
 max stretch size 0x08000000 (134217728) bytes [128 MB]  
 current free space 0x024B3000 (38481920) bytes [36.7 MB]  
 allocation blocks 0x0000270B (9995)  
 block size 0x00001000 (4096) bytes [4 KB]  
 post-al-block space 0x00000000 (0) sectors

VH (sector 2)

signature H+  
 version 0x0004  
 attributes 0x80002100  
 lastMountedVersion 0x4846534A (HFSJ)  
 journalInfoBlock 0x00000002  
 createDate 0xCC1FA2C6 7/8/12, 8:49:10 PM EDT  
 modifyDate 0xCEB82129 11/24/13, 9:33:29 PM GMT  
 backupDate 0x00000000 1/1/04, 12:00:00 AM GMT  
 checkedDate 0xCC1FDB06 7/9/12, 12:49:10 AM GMT  
 fileCount 0x0000000D  
 folderCount 0x00000007  
 blockSize 0x00001000  
 totalBlocks 0x0000270B  
 freeBlocks 0x000024B3  
 nextAllocation 0x00000124  
 rsrcClumpSize 0x00010000  
 dataClumpSize 0x00010000  
 nextCatalogID 0x0000003E  
 writeCount 0x00000039  
 encodingsBitmap 0x0000000000000001  
 finderInfo  
   0 0 Blessed folder directory ID  
   1 0  
   2 0 Open folder directory ID  
   3 0 Mac OS 9 blessed folder directory ID  
   4 0  
   5 0 Mac OS X blessed folder directory ID  
 VSDB Volume ID 0x679CB905565CF3D2

allocationFile  
   logicalSize 0x0000000000001000  
   clumpSize 0x00001000  
   totalBlocks 0x00000001  
   extents startBlock blockCount  
   0x00000001 0x00000001

extentsFile  
   logicalSize 0x000000000004E000  
   clumpSize 0x0004E000  
   totalBlocks 0x0000004E  
   extents startBlock blockCount  
   0x00000083 0x0000004E

catalogFile  
   logicalSize 0x000000000004E000  
   clumpSize 0x0004E000  
   totalBlocks 0x0000004E  
   extents startBlock blockCount  
   0x0000042B 0x0000004E

attributesFile  
   logicalSize 0x000000000004E000  
   clumpSize 0x0004E000  
   totalBlocks 0x0000004E  
   extents startBlock blockCount  
   0x000000D1 0x0000004E

startupFile  
   logicalSize 0x0000000000000000  
   clumpSize 0x00000000  
   totalBlocks 0x00000000  
   extents startBlock blockCount

# Volume Header

## The Sleuth Kit `fsstat` Command

```
nibble:Exercise 1.3 - HFS+ compas fsstat -o 40 GPT.dmg
FILE SYSTEM INFORMATION
-----
File System Type: HFS+
File System Version: HFS+

Volume Name: HFS_GUID
Volume Identifier: 679cb905565cf3d2

Last Mounted By: Mac OS X, Journaled
Volume Unmounted Properly
Mount Count: 57

Creation Date: 2012-07-08 21:49:10 (EDT)
Last Written Date: 2013-11-24 16:33:29 (EST)
Last Backup Date: 0000-00-00 00:00:00 (UTC)
Last Checked Date: 2012-07-08 20:49:10 (EDT)

Journal Info Block: 2

METADATA INFORMATION
-----
Range: 2 - 61
Bootable Folder ID: 0
Startup App ID: 0
Startup Open Folder ID: 0
Mac OS 8/9 Blessed System Folder ID: 0
Mac OS X Blessed System Folder ID: 0
Number of files: 13
Number of folders: 7

CONTENT INFORMATION
-----
Block Range: 0 - 9994
Allocation Block Size: 4096
Number of Free Blocks: 9395
```

© SANS  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Another way we can view some of the volume header information is to use The Sleuth Kit `fsstat` command. While this does not contain the size and location of the HFS+ special files – it does give us a concise view of the volume including timestamps, volume name, format and file/folder information.

This command can be used on a disk image or on a live system using the raw disk device (`/dev/rdisk#`)

Reference:

`fsstat` Man Page

nibble:Exercise 1.3 - HFS+ oompa\$ fsstat -o 40 GPT.dmg  
FILE SYSTEM INFORMATION

-----  
File System Type: HFS+  
File System Version: HFS+

Volume Name: HFS\_GUID  
Volume Identifier: 679cb905565cf3d2

Last Mounted By: Mac OS X, Journaled  
Volume Unmounted Properly  
Mount Count: 57

Creation Date: 2012-07-08 21:49:10 (EDT)  
Last Written Date: 2013-11-24 16:33:29 (EST)  
Last Backup Date: 0000-00-00 00:00:00 (UTC)  
Last Checked Date: 2012-07-08 20:49:10 (EDT)

Journal Info Block: 2

METADATA INFORMATION

-----  
Range: 2 - 61  
Bootable Folder ID: 0  
Startup App ID: 0  
Startup Open Folder ID: 0  
Mac OS 8/9 Blessed System Folder ID: 0  
Mac OS X Blessed System Folder ID: 0  
Number of files: 13  
Number of folders: 7

CONTENT INFORMATION

-----  
Block Range: 0 - 9994  
Allocation Block Size: 4096  
Number of Free Blocks: 9395

## Extraction of HFS+ "special files" with TSK `icat` Command

```
icat -f hfs -o <partitionoffset>  
*.dmg <inode> > special_file
```

### Special File Inode Numbers

- 3 – Extents Overflow File
- 4 – Catalog File
- 6 – Allocation File
- 7 – Startup File
- 8 – Attributes File

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The following slides describe the special files and how they are laid out. Each of these special files has their own "inode" or Catalog Node ID (CNID). Apple has reserved the first 16 CNIDs for special files, some of which are listed above.

Some forensic tools do not allow access to these files as they are "system" files. Each special file can be accessed and extracted by their CNID using the `icat` command from Sleuthkit. Extraction of these files may be useful if you need to do additional analysis on them.

To extract the Allocation File you would use the following command:

```
icat -f hfs -o 409640 lion_macbook.dmg 6 > allocation_file
```

# Allocation File

---

Bitmap File

Keeps track of block allocation

1 bit per allocation block (4096 bytes, 8 - 512 byte blocks)

Size of Allocation File dependent on volume size

© SANS. All Rights Reserved. Mac Forensic Analysis

The Allocation File is used to track which blocks on a volume are allocated (or not). The size of this file is dependent of the size of the volume.

The Allocation File uses a bitmap format to store its data. Each 512 byte block is represented by one bit. The file tracks eight blocks at a time, or 4,096 bytes.

**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

References:

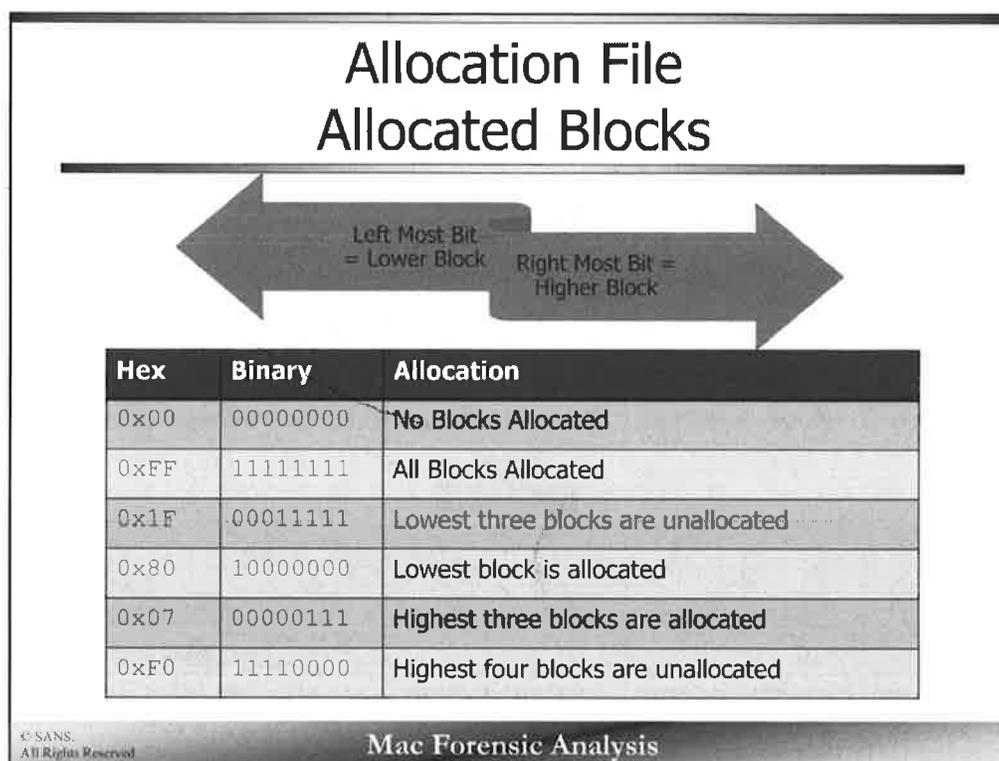
Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16





Each byte in the Allocation File is organized as follows:

- The **left most bit** contains the status of the block with the **lowest** number.
- The **right most bit** contains the status of the block with the **highest** number.

In the table above, the examples from the previous screenshot are shown in binary to demonstrate which blocks are allocated and which are not.

**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Allocation File

## Allocation Block Examples

0xF0

Lower Block							Higher Block
Bit 1	Bit 2	Bit 3	Bit 4	Bit 5	Bit 6	Bit 7	Bit 8
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Allocated	Allocated	Allocated	Allocated	Unallocated	Unallocated	Unallocated	Unallocated

0x07

Lower Block							Higher Block
Bit 1	Bit 2	Bit 3	Bit 4	Bit 5	Bit 6	Bit 7	Bit 8
0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Unallocated	Unallocated	Unallocated	Unallocated	Unallocated	Allocated	Allocated	Allocated

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

**Mac Forensic Analysis**

Each byte in the Allocation File is organized as follows:

- The **most** significant bit contains the status of the block with the **lowest** number.
- The **least** significant bit contains the status of the block with the **highest** number.

**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# B-Trees

Used by the Catalog, Attributes, Extents Overflow File

Used for efficiency in searching stored data

Made up of Nodes, Records, Keys & Data

Ordered Keys

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The balanced tree or B-tree structure is used by the three HFS+ special files.

- Catalog File
- Attributes File
- Extents Overflow File

The B-tree structure is used to efficiently search the records in the tree where file system data is stored. A B-tree is made up of nodes, records, keys, and data. The data is ordered by keys.

This B-tree concept is not very easy to understand and takes time and patience to grasp the structure of B-trees and their purpose in the HFS+ file system.

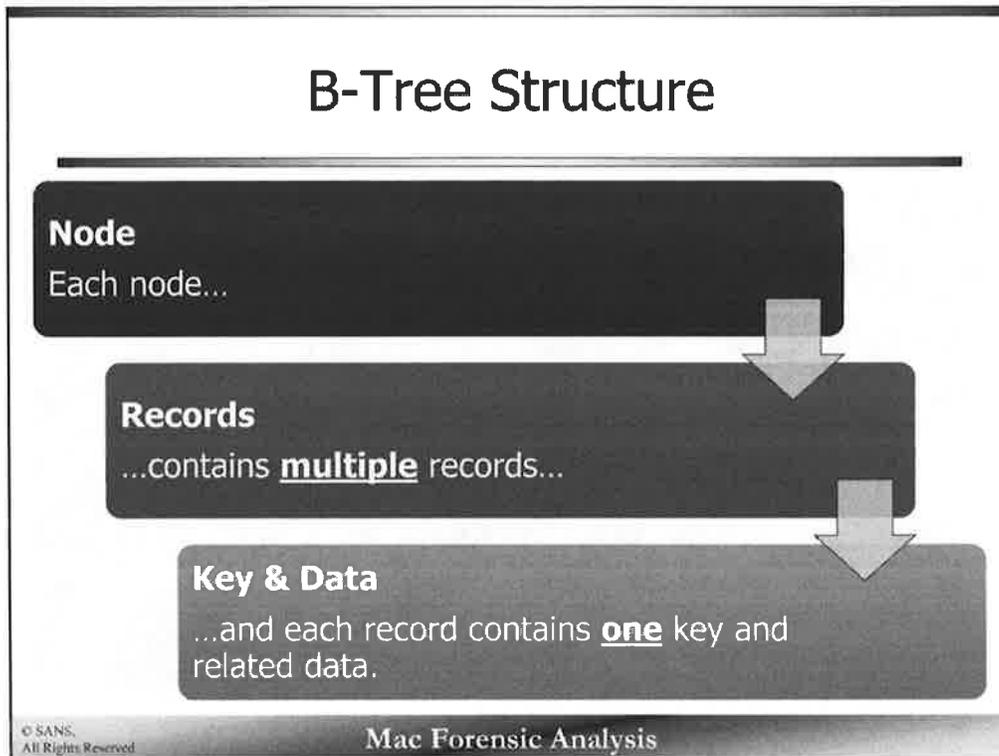
## References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16



The B-tree structure is made up of nodes, records, keys, and data.

Each **node** may contain *multiple* records.

Each **record** contains only *one key and data*.

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# B-Tree Nodes [1]

## Header Node

- Only **one** in each B-Tree
- Always the first node
- Contains information where to find other nodes in the tree

## Map Nodes

- Contain Map Records: Contains allocation data B-tree nodes

## Index Nodes

- Contain Pointer Records: Contains B-tree structure information

## Leaf Nodes

- Contain Data Records: Contains data corresponding to a unique key

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

A B-tree uses four types of nodes:

- Header Node
- Map Nodes
- Index Nodes
- Leaf Nodes

There is only one Header Node in each B-tree. There is **only one** Header Node for each of the Catalog, Attributes, and Extents Overflow files. The Header Node is always the first node in the B-tree, it contains information on how to find other nodes in the B-tree.

**Map Nodes** contain **Map Records**. These records contain allocation data of B-tree nodes.

**Index Nodes** contain **Pointer Records**. These records contain B-tree structure information.

**Leaf Nodes** contain **Data Records**. These records contain data corresponding to a unique key.

Each node type has a standard structure that is the same across all nodes.

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

## B-Tree Nodes [2]

Each node is assigned a number

Calculate Node Number

- Divide offset in file by node size (8k, 4k, 1k)

Each Node Contains:

- Descriptor (Beginning of Node) – 14 bytes
- List of Records
- List of Record Offsets (End of Node)

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Each B-tree node is assigned a number. This number can be calculated by dividing the offset of the node in the file (from the beginning of the special file) by the node size, found in the Header Node's Header Record.

Default Node Size for Mac OS X:

- Catalog File – 8,192 bytes
- Attributes File – 4,096 bytes
- Extents Overflow File – 1,024 bytes

Each node contains the following pieces:

- Descriptor – starts at the beginning of the node.
- List of Record Offsets – starting from the end of the node.
- List of Records

References:

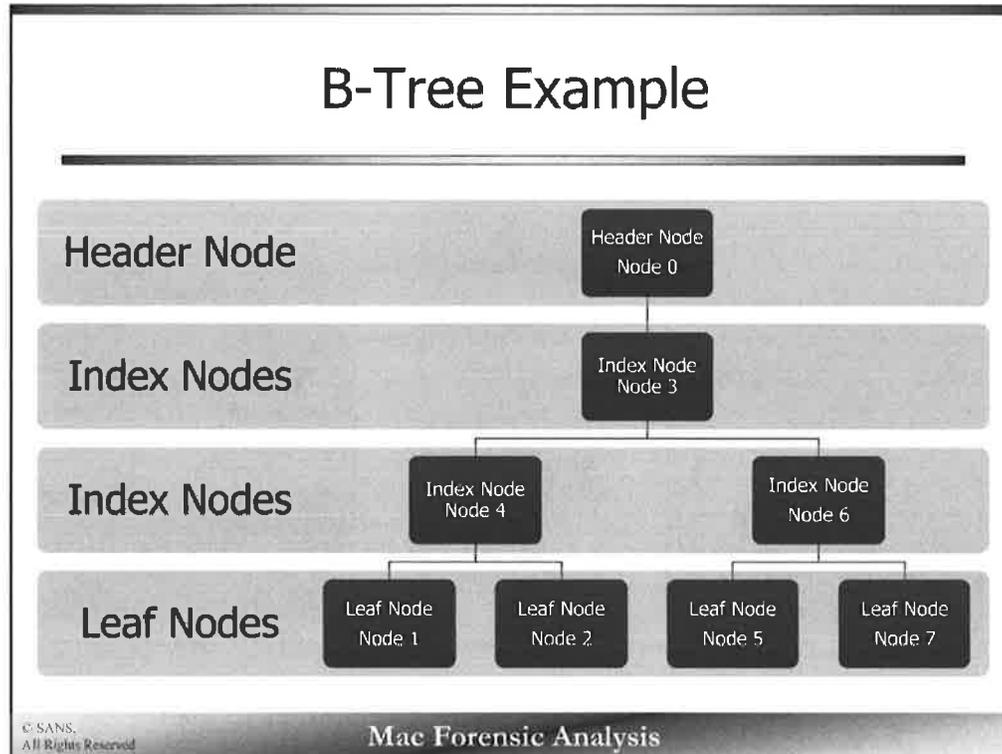
Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

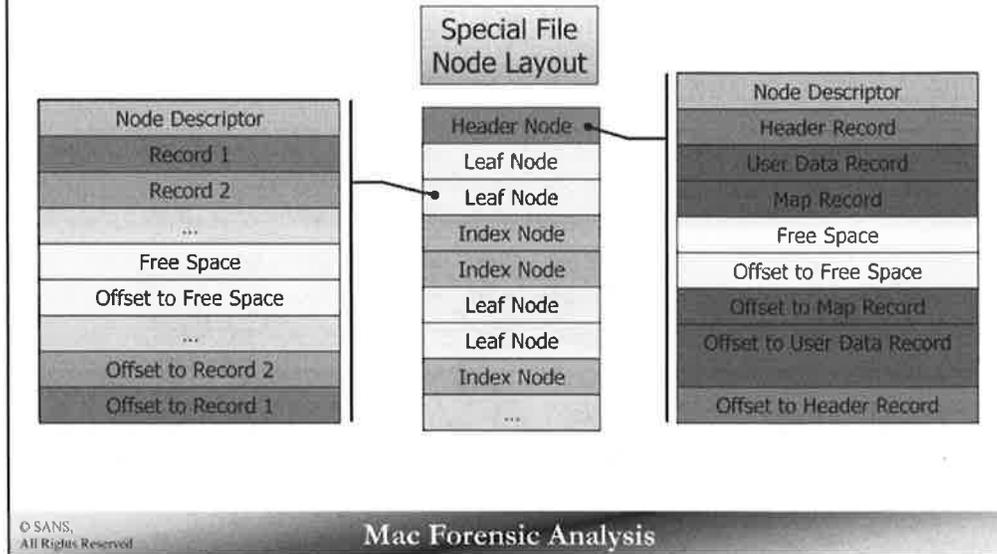
# B-Tree Example



A B-Tree is made up of different nodes, the Header Node at the top is always Node 0.

Index Nodes build the branches of the tree, while Leaf Nodes are the leaves. Leaf Nodes are always at the “bottom” of the tree.

# Special File Nodes & Node Structure



Each special file using a B-Tree (Catalog, Attributes, Extents Overflow) will be comprised of ONE Header Node, and multiple Leaf, Index, (and possibly) Map Nodes. Each node size is determined by data found in the Header Node (Node Size), this may be 4,096 bytes for each node, for example.

Each Header Node is comprised of a Node Descriptor, Header Record, User Data Record, and Map Record.

Other Nodes (Leaf, Index) are comprised of a Node Descriptor, and Keyed Records.

## References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

## Node Descriptor [14 Bytes]

- First 14 Bytes of Each Node
- Node Information
- Forward & backward Links (to other nodes)

Offset	Size	Field
0	4 Bytes	Forward Link
4	4 Bytes	Backward Link
8	1 Byte	Kind
9	1 Byte	Height
10	2 Bytes	Number of Records
12	2 Bytes	Reserved

Value	Node Type
-1 (0xFF)	Leaf Node
0 (0x00)	Index Node
1 (0x01)	Header Node
2 (0x02)	Map Node

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Node Descriptor part of the Node starts at the beginning of the node.

The Node Descriptor is always 14 bytes in size, and contains node information such as the forward and backward links to other nodes. These links tell the system how to find the nodes. If the forward link is 0, it is the last node. If the backward link is 0, it is the first node in the list.

The Node Descriptor also contains a value describing the kind of node it is. This will help determine what type of data is contained in the node.

The height field contains the depth in the B-tree of where this node is located. A node at level 0, may be the Header Node or a Map Node. Leaf Nodes will always be at a level 1.

The Number of Records field determines the number of records contained in this node.

**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Node Descriptor Examples

© SANS, All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

## Example 1:

- Forward Link -  $0x00000000 = 0$
- Backward Link -  $0x00000000 = 0$
- Kind -  $0x01 = 1$  (Header Node)
- Height -  $0x00 = 0$
- Number of Records -  $0x0003 = 3$  Records
- Reserved -  $0x0000$

## Example 2:

- Forward Link -  $0x00000000 = 0$
- Backward Link -  $0x00000002 = 2$
- Kind -  $0xff = -1$  (Leaf Node)
- Height -  $0x01 = 1$
- Number of Records -  $0x0013 = 19$  Records
- Reserved -  $0x0000$

**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

## References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

## Header Node

Always Node 0

Contains data about the B-tree

Always contains three records:

- Header Record
- User Data Record
- Map Record

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Header Node is always node 0. It contains information about the specific B-tree.

The Header Node is comprised of three records:

- Header Record
- User Data Record
- Map Record

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

## Header Node Header Record [106 Bytes]

Offset	Size	Field
0	2 Bytes	Tree Depth
2	4 Bytes	Root Node
6	4 Bytes	Leaf Records
10	4 Bytes	First Leaf Node
14	4 Bytes	Last Leaf Node
18	2 Bytes	Node Size
20	2 Bytes	Max Key Length
22	4 Bytes	Total Nodes
26	4 Bytes	Free Nodes
30	2 Bytes	Reserved
32	4 Bytes	Clump Size
36	1 Byte	B-tree Type
37	1 Bytes	Key Compare Type
38	4 Bytes	Attributes
42	4 Bytes	Reserved [16] – 64 bytes

Value	B-tree Type
0 (0x00)	HFS B-tree
128 (0x80)	User B-Tree
255 (0xFF)	Reserved

Value	Key Compare Type
0xCF or 0xC7	Case Folding (Case-insensitive)
0xBC	Binary Compare (Case-sensitive)

© 54 All Rights Reserved mac forensic Analysis

The Header Record in the Header Node is 106 bytes in size.

The Header Record contains data such:

- The number of the root Index Node (Root Node)
- Node numbers for the first and last leaf nodes
- Size of the nodes
- Total number of nodes in the B-tree
- Number of free nodes
- Type of B-tree
- Comparison type for searching keys
- Attributes specific to the B-tree (detailed in TN1150)

The type of B-tree for HFS+ special files will have the value '0'. The comparison type of key searching may have one of three values. The volume may be case-sensitive or case-insensitive.

More detailed information about the record fields can be found in TN1150.

**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Header Record Example

000020	00 00 00 34	00 00 00 04	00 00 00 01	10 00 02 04	00 00 00 03
000040	00 00 00 49	00 00 00 04	E0 00 00 CF	00 00 00 05	00 00 00 00
000060	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000080	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000100	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000120	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000140	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000160	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000180	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000200	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000220	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000240	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000260	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000280	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00
000300	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

## Header Record Example:

- Tree Depth –  $0x0002 = 2$
- Root Node –  $0x00000003 = 3$
- Leaf Records –  $0x00000034 = 52$
- First Leaf Node –  $0x00000004 = 4$
- Last Leaf Node –  $0x00000001 = 1$
- Node Size –  $0x1000 = 4096$
- Max Key Length –  $0x0204 = 516$
- Total Nodes –  $0x0000004E = 78$
- Free Nodes –  $0x00000049 = 73$
- Reserved –  $0x0000$
- Clump Size –  $0x0004E000 = 319488$
- B-Tree Type –  $0x00 = 0 = \text{HFS B-Tree}$
- Key Compare Type –  $0xCF = \text{Case Folding (Insensitive)}$
- Attributes –  $0x00000006$
- Reserved –  $0x00000000$  [Array of 16 for 64 bytes total]

## **Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

### References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

0000000	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	03	00	00	00	02	00	00	00	03
0000200	00	00	00	34	00	00	00	04	00	00	00	01	10	00	02	04	00	00	00	00	4E
0000400	00	00	00	49	00	00	00	04	E0	00	00	CF	00	00	00	06	00	00	00	00	00
0000600	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0000800	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0001000	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0001200	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0001400	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0001600	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0001800	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0002000	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0002200	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0002400	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	F8	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0002600	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0002800	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
0003000	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00

## Header Node User Data Record [128 Bytes]

Unused in  
Catalog,  
Extents  
Overflow &  
Attributes B-  
tree Files

Used in  
Hot File B-  
tree

000000	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000010	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000020	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000030	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000040	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000050	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000060	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000070	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000080	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000090	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000100	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000110	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000120	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000130	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000140	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000150	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000160	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000170	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000180	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000190	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000200	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000210	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000220	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000230	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000240	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000250	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000260	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000270	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000280	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000290	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000300	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The User Data Record of the Header Node is always 128 bytes in size, however it is unused in the HFS+ special files. It is used in the Hot File B-tree, explained later.

### References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

## Header Node Map Record

**Bitmap – Format is the same as Allocation File**

**Contains data on which nodes are free in the B-tree**

**Map Record Size:**

- Node Size (in Header Record) minus 248 bytes

000000	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000010	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000020	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000030	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000040	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000050	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000060	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000070	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000080	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000090	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0000A0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0000B0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0000C0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0000D0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0000E0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0000F0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000100	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000110	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000120	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000130	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000140	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000150	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000160	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000170	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000180	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000190	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0001A0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0001B0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0001C0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0001D0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0001E0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0001F0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000200	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000210	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000220	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000230	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000240	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000250	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000260	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000270	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000280	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000290	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0002A0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0002B0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0002C0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0002D0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0002E0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0002F0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
000300	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

© SANS, All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Map Record of the Header Node has a very similar function to the Allocation File. Recall that the Allocation File uses a bitmap format to determine which blocks on a volume are used and which are free. The Map Record does the same function but for which nodes are allocated and which are free.

The size of the Map Record is always the Node Size (found in the Header Record) minus 248 bytes.

**References:**

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Map Nodes

Used to store allocation data if Map Record in Header Node is at capacity.

Forward Link in Header Node will be the node number of the first Map Node.

Map Nodes are an extension of those in Header Node.

Contains:

- Node Descriptor
- Map Record (Only one)

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Map Nodes are used when the Header Node is at capacity, meaning there is no more space to store data about the allocation of nodes.

The forward link in the Header Node will point to the node number of the first Map Node. Map Nodes extend the Header Node. There may be multiple Map Nodes.

Map Nodes contain a Node Descriptor **and** a Map Record, both have been detailed previously.

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Index Node

Points to data in another node

Contains Pointer Records

- Key Length - Always 2 bytes in HFS+ B-trees
- Key - Variable Size
- Data - 4 Bytes Node Number

Catalog File uses the Index Key:

- 4 Byte Parent Catalog Node ID (CNID)
- Variable – 2 Byte Data Size + Data

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Index Node contains Pointer Records. These records contain three parts:

- Key Length
- Key (See next table)
- Node Number (4 bytes) – This node will contain the data for the specified file/folder.

Index Node Layout:	
Size (in bytes)	Field
2	Key Length
Variable	Key (see table below)
4	Node Number

For Example: The Key used in the Catalog File is comprised of the Parent Catalog Node ID (CNID) number and the variable data string (Data size + File/Folder Name)

Index Key for Catalog File:	
Size (in bytes)	Field
4	Parent CNID
Variable	Data Size [2 bytes] + Data (Empty String 0x0000 in thread records) (+padding byte if key length is odd)

**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

References:

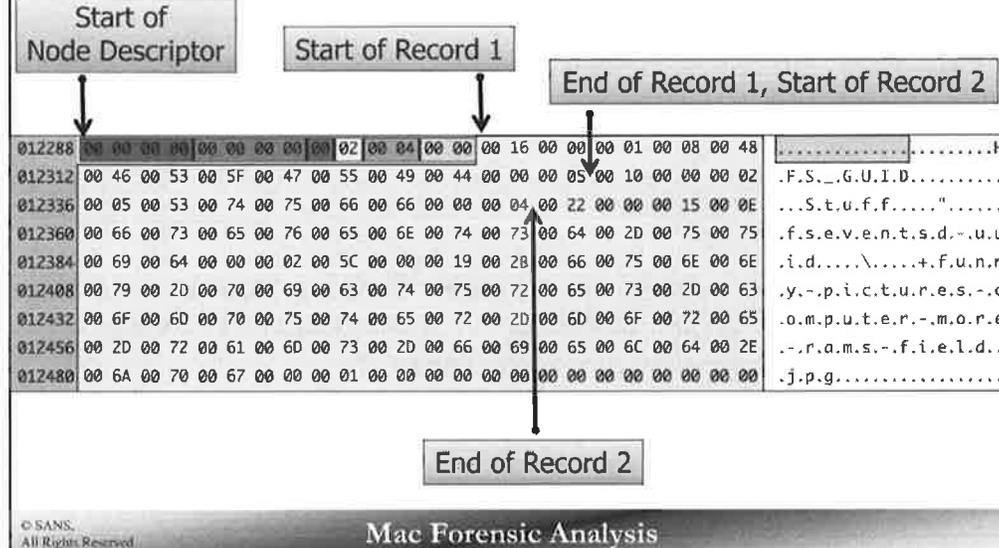
Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Index Node Example



Index Node Layout:	
Size (in bytes)	Field
2	Key Length
Variable	Key (see table below)
4	Node Number

Index Key for Catalog File:	
Size (in bytes)	Field
4	Parent CNID
Variable	Data Size [2 bytes] + Data (Empty String 0x0000 in thread records) (+padding byte if key length is odd)

## Example 1:

- Forward Link - 0x00000000 = 0
- Backward Link - 0x00000000 = 0
- Kind - 0x00 = 0 (Index Node)
- Height - 0x02 = 2
- Number of Records - 0x0004 = 4 Records (HFS\_GUID, Stuff, fsevents-d-uid, funny-pictures-computer-more-rams-field.jpg)
- Reserved - 0x0000

## Record 1:

- Key Length - 0x0016 = 22 bytes
- Key -
  - Parent Catalog Node ID (CNID) - 0x00000001 = 1
  - Data:
    - Data Size: 0x0008 = 8 (16 bytes Unicode)
    - Data - 0x004800460053005F0047005500490044 = "HFS\_GUID"
- Node Number - 0x00000005 = Node 5

Record 2:

- Key Length – 0x0010 – 16 bytes
- Key –
  - Parent Catalog Node ID (CNID) – 0x00000002 = 2
  - Data:
    - Data Size: 0x0005 = 5 (10 bytes Unicode)
    - Data – 0x00530074007500660066 = “Stuff”
- Node Number – 0x00000004 = Node 4

**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16



# Leaf Node

Always the bottom of the B-tree

Contains Data Records

- Key Length - Always 2 bytes in HFS+ B-trees
- Key - 4-byte Parent Catalog Node ID (CNID)
- Data - Variable per Special File

May have one-byte padding before and/or after Data to align on two-byte boundary to create an even number of bytes

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

A Leaf Node contains Data Records. Leaf Nodes are always located at the bottom of the B-tree.

Data Records are comprised of three parts:

- Key Length
- Key
- Data

Leaf Node Layout:	
Size (in bytes)	Field
2	Key Length
4	Key - Parent CNID
4	HFSUniStr255 (Data Size + Data)

The Data in an HFS+ B-tree will contain one of the following depending on the type of special file.

- Catalog Record
- Extent Record
- Attribute Record

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 - Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source - Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh - Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin - Chapter 16

# Leaf Node Example

Start of Node Descriptor      Start of Record 1      End of Record 1, Start of Record 2

016380	00 2A 00 0E 00 00 00 02 00 00 00 05 FF 01 00 0A 00 00 00 10 00 00 00 02 00 05	.*. . . . .y. . . . .
016406	00 53 00 74 00 75 00 66 00 66 00 01 00 80 00 00 00 01 00 00 1B CC 20 80 59	.S.t.u.f.f. . . . .i .Y
016432	CC 20 82 5D CC 20 84 C9 CC 4C 39 CB 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 F5 00 00 00 14 00 00	i .ji .éiL9É. . . . .ó. . . . .
016458	41 ED 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	Ai. . . . .
016484	4F FA D4 49 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 30 00 00 00 02	000I. . . . .0. . . . .
016510	00 15 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 48 00 46 00 53 00 28 00 20 00 50 00 72 00 69	. . . . .H.F.S.+ .P.r.l
016536	00 76 00 61 00 74 00 65 00 20 00 44 00 b1 00 74 00 G1 00 01 00 10 00 00 00 00	.v.a.t.e. .D.a.t.a. . . . .
016562	00 00 00 12 CC 1F DB 06 00 00 00 00	. . . . .i 0.i 0.i 0.i 0.i 0. . . . .
016588	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 02 40 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 50 00 40 00	. . . . .@. . . . .
016614	40 00	e. . . . .
016640	00 00 00 06 00 00 00 10 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 00 00 02 00 05 00 2E 00 6A 00 6F	. . . . .j.o
016666	00 75 00 72 00 6E 00 61 00 6C 00 06 00 00 00 11 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 00 00 02	.u.r.n.a.l. . . . .

© SANS, All Rights Reserved      Mac Forensic Analysis

Example 1 (Node 4, from previous example):

- Forward Link -  $0x00000002 = 2$
- Backward Link -  $0x00000005 = 5$
- Kind -  $0xFF = 0$  (Leaf Node)
- Height -  $0x01 = 1$
- Number of Records -  $0x00000A = 10$  Records
- Reserved -  $0x0000$

Leaf Node Layout:	
Size (in bytes)	Field
2	Key Length
4	Key - Parent CNID
4	HFSUniStr255 (Data Size + Data)

Record 1:

- Key Length -  $0x0010 = 16$  bytes
- Key - (Parent Catalog Node ID (CNID)) -  $0x00000002 = 2$
- Data:
  - Data Size:  $0x0005 = 5$  (10 bytes Unicode)
  - Data -  $0x00530074007500660066 =$  "Stuff"
- ...Continue on to Catalog File/Folder Records...

**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**

016380	00	2A	00	0E	00	00	00	02	00	00	00	05	FF	01	00	0A	00	00	00	10	00	00	00	02	00	05	*.....ÿ.....
016406	00	53	00	74	00	75	00	66	00	01	00	80	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	02	00	05	.S.t.u.f.f.....î .Y
016432	CC	20	82	5D	CC	20	84	C9	CC	4C	39	CB	00	00	00	00	00	01	F5	00	00	00	14	00	00	59	î .Jî .Éîl9Ě.....ô.....
016458	41	ED	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	Aî.....
016484	4F	FA	D4	49	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	QuôI.....0.....
016510	00	15	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	48	00	46	00	53	00	28	00	20	00	50	00	72	00	69	.....H.F.S.+ .P.r.î	
016536	00	76	00	61	00	74	00	65	00	20	00	44	00	61	00	74	00	61	00	01	00	10	00	00	00	00	.....î Û.î Û.î Û.....
016562	00	00	00	12	CC	1F	DB	06	CC	1F	DB	06	CC	1F	DB	06	CC	1F	DB	06	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....@.....P.@.
016588	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	02	40	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	50	00	40	@.....	
016614	40	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....j.o
016640	00	00	00	06	00	00	00	10	00	00	00	04	00	00	00	00	02	00	08	00	2E	00	6A	00	6F	.....u.r.n.a.l.....	
016666	00	75	00	72	00	6E	00	61	00	6C	00	06	00	00	00	11	00	00	00	04	00	00	00	00	02	.....	

# Catalog File

Directory and file hierarchy of a volume

B-tree File

Catalog Node ID (CNID)

- One for each file & directory
- 4 bytes

First 16 (0-15) CNIDs are reserved by Apple

CNID 0 – Never used

CNIDs are sequentially allocated

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Catalog File will contain the bulk of the forensic data we are interested in. This file contains the directory and file hierarchy of a volume in a B-tree structure.

Each file and folder on a volume has a unique Catalog Node ID or CNID. This is a 4-byte value that is sequentially allocated. The first 16 CNIDs are reserved by Apple for specific files. CNID 0 is never used. CNIDs may be reused.

## References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

## Catalog File Reserved Apple CNIDs

CNIDs	Reservation
1	Root Parent
2	Root Folder
3	Extents Overflow File
4	Catalog File
5	Bad Block File
6	Allocation File
7	Startup File
8	Attributes File
14	Repair Catalog File
15	Bogus Extent File
16	First User Catalog Node

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

This list contains the reserved Catalog Node IDs for the first 16 CNIDs. The assigned file or folder is standard and can always be referenced by that specific CNID.

CNID 16 is always the first CNID available for user files or directories. CNIDs 9-13 do not appear to be used at this time.

#### References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Catalog File Key

Used in file, folder, thread records

In searches, the CNID of the parent is compared first,  
then the Node Name

Size	Field
2 Bytes	Key Length
4 Bytes	Parent CNID
Variable	Node Name (Unicode) - Empty String in Thread Records (0x0000) - Folder/File Name

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The key used in the Catalog File is used for each file, folder or thread record and has the format shown in the table above.

Searches will compare the CNID of the parent first, then it will compare the Node Name (File or Folder Name) to determine if a file or folder exists.

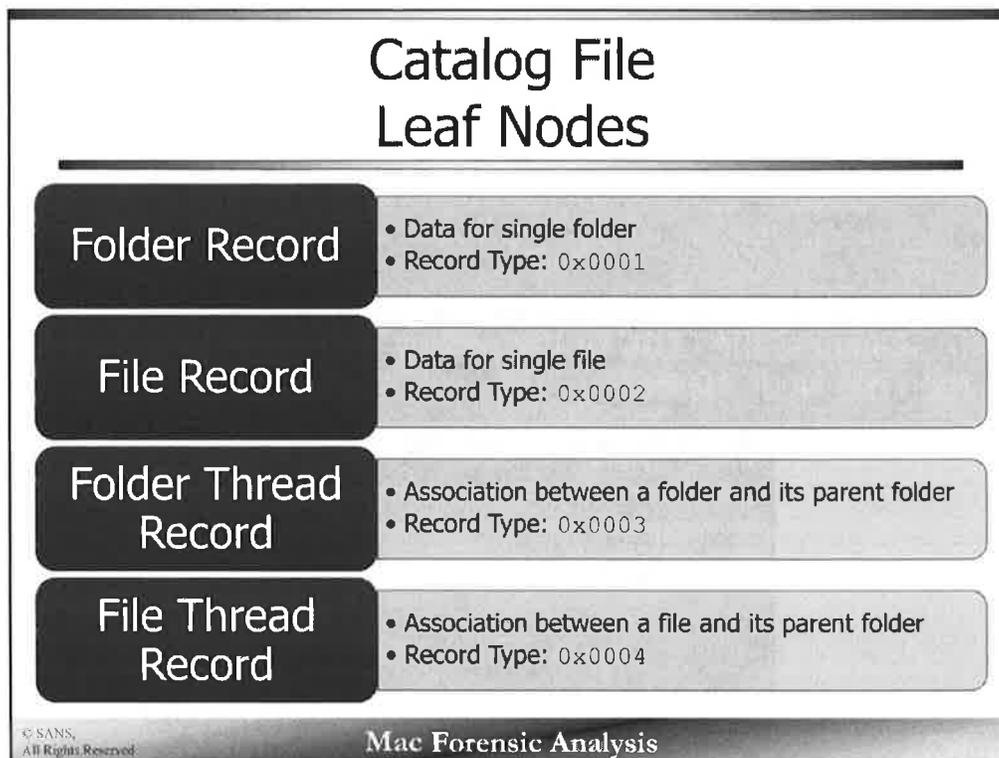
#### References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16



The Catalog File implements four types of Leaf Nodes.

- Folder Record
- File Record
- Folder Thread Record
- File Thread Record

The Folder Record (Type 0x0001) contains the data for a single folder.

The File Record (Type 0x0002) contains the data for a single file.

The Folder Thread Record (Type 0x0003) contains an association between a folder and its parent folder.

The File Thread Record (Type 0x0004) contains an association between a file and its parent folder.

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

## Catalog File Folder Records [88 Bytes]

Size	Field
2 Bytes	Record Type (0x0001)
2 Bytes	Flags
4 Bytes	Valence
4 Bytes	Folder ID (CNID)
4 Bytes	Create Date
4 Bytes	Content Modification Date
4 Bytes	Attribute Modification Date
4 Bytes	Access Date
4 Bytes	Backup Date
HFSPPlusBSDInfo [16 Bytes]	Permissions
FolderInfo [16 Bytes]	User Information
ExtendedFolderInfo [16 Bytes]	Finder Information
4 Bytes	Text Encoding
4 Bytes	Reserved

Size	HFSPPlusBSDInfo
4 Bytes	Owner ID
4 Bytes	Group ID
1 Byte	Admin Flags
1 Byte	Owner Flags
2 Bytes	File Mode
4 Bytes	iNode Number or Link Count or Raw Device

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Folder Records of the Catalog File contain the data shown in the left table above. Each Folder Record will have the value 0x0001 in the Record Type field.

The Valence field contains the number of files and directories contained in this folder.  
The Folder ID contains the CNID of this folder.

Each Folder Record contains five dates (HFS+ Timestamp 1/1/1904 00:00:00: in GMT):

- Creation Date – Date and time the folder was created
- Content Modification Date – Date and time the content of the folder was modified
- Attribute Modification Date – Date and time the Catalog Record for this folder was changed
- Access Date – Date and time the contents of the folder were accessed
- Backup Date – Date and time the folder was backed up. Likely unused.

The User Information and Finder Information fields contain information specific to the Mac OS Finder such as:

- Location in Finder window
- If the folder has a custom icon or has a colored 'label'
- If the folder is locked or invisible

The table to the right contains the format for HFS+ file system metadata for the folder.

References:

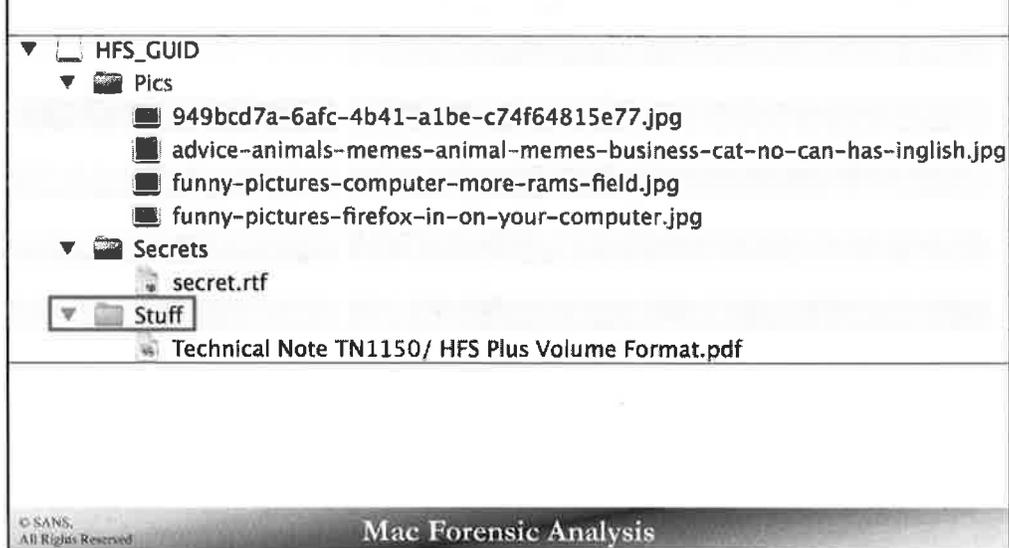
Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

## Folder Record Example in Finder



In our GPT .dmg example, we are going to be looking at the `Stuff` directory shown in the screenshot above.



- **Permissions** – 0x000001F500000014000041ED00000001
  - **Owner ID** – 0x000001F5 = 501
  - **Group ID** – 0x00000014 = 20
  - **Admin Flags** – 0x00
  - **Owner Flags** – 0x00
  - **File Mode** – 0x41ED (See decoding below)
  - **Link Count** – 0x00000001 = 1
- **User Information** – 0x00000000000000000000000000000000
- **Finder Information** – 0x000000004FFAD4490000000000000000
- **Text Encoding** - 0x00000000
- **Reserved** – 0x00000000

File Mode Decoding (See tables 15.11-15.13 in File System Forensic Analysis by Brian Carrier):

Example: 0x41ED = 0100000111101101

0100 = 4 = Directory

000 = SetUID, SetGID, Sticky bits

111 = User Permissions = rwx = 7

101 = Group Permissions = r-x = 5

101 = Other Permissions = r-x = 5

016380	00 2A 00 0E 00 00 00 02 00 00 00 05 FF 01 00 0A 00 00 00 10 00 00 00 02 00 00 05	*.....y.....
016406	00 53 00 74 00 75 00 66 00 66 00 01 00 80 00 00 01 00 00 00 18 CC 20 80 59	S.t.u.f.f.....i .y
016432	CC 20 82 5D CC 20 84 C9 CC 4C 39 CB 00 00 00 00 00 01 F5 00 00 00 14 00 00	i .j i .éi l g é.....o.....
016458	41 ED 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	Aí.....
016484	4F FA D4 49 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 30 00 00 00 02	000I.....0.....
016510	00 15 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 48 00 46 00 53 00 28 00 20 00 50 00 72 00 69	.....H.F.S.+ .P.r.i
016536	00 76 00 61 00 74 00 55 00 20 00 44 00 61 00 74 00 61 00 01 00 10 00 00 00 00	.v.a.t.e. D.a.t.a.....
016562	00 00 00 12 CC 1F DB 06 CC 00 00 00 00 00	....ì ù.ì ù.ì ù.ì ù.....
016588	00 00 00 00 00 00 02 40 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 50 00 40 00	.....@.....P.@.
016614	40 00	@.....
016640	00 00 06 00 00 10 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 02 00 08 00 2E 00 6A 00 6F	.....j.o
016666	00 75 00 72 00 6E 00 61 00 6C 00 06 00 00 11 00 20 00 04 00 00 00 00 02	u.r.n.a.l.....

## Folder Record Example Sanity Check

```
nibble:Exercise 1.3 - HFS+ oompa$ istat -o 40 -z GMT GPT.dmg 27
File Path: /Stuff
Catalog Record: 27
Allocated
Type: Folder
Mode: drwxr-xr-x
Size: 0
uid / gid: 501 / 20
Link count: 1

File Name: Stuff
Admin flags: 0
Owner flags: 0
Text encoding: 0 = MacRoman

Times:
Created: 2012-07-09 12:34:33 (GMT)
Content Modified: 2012-07-09 12:43:09 (GMT)
Attributes Modified: 2012-07-09 12:53:29 (GMT)
Accessed: 2012-08-11 16:33:15 (GMT)
Backed Up: 0000-00-00 00:00:00 (UTC)

Attributes:
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Lets check our results by using the `istat` tool by The Sleuth Kit.

# Catalog File File Records [248 Bytes]

Size	Field
2 Bytes	Record Type (0x0002)
2 Bytes	Flags
4 Bytes	Reserved
4 Bytes	File ID (CNID)
4 Bytes	Create Date
4 Bytes	Content Modification Date
4 Bytes	Attribute Modification Date
4 Bytes	Access Date
4 Bytes	Backup Date
HFSPPlusBSDInfo [16 Bytes]	Permissions
FileInfo [16 Bytes]	User Information
ExtendedFileInfo [10 Bytes]	Finder Information
4 Bytes	Text Encoding
4 Bytes	Reserved
HFSPPlusForkData [80 Bytes]	Data Fork
HFSPPlusForkData [80 Bytes]	Resource Fork

Size	HFSPPlusBSDInfo
4 Bytes	Owner ID
4 Bytes	Group ID
1 Byte	Admin Flags
1 Byte	Owner Flags
2 Bytes	File Mode
4 Bytes	iNode Number or Link Count or Raw Device

The File Records of the Catalog File contain the data shown in the left table above. Each File Record will have the value 0x0002 in the Record Type field. The contents of this record are very similar to the Folder Record.

The File ID contains the CNID of this file.

Each Folder Record contains five dates (HFS+ Timestamp 1/1/1904 00:00:00; in GMT):

- Creation Date – Date and time the file was created
- Content Modification Date – Date and time the content of the file was modified
- Attribute Modification Date – Date and time the Catalog Record for this file was changed
- Access Date – Date and time the contents of the file were accessed
- Backup Date – Date and time the file was backed up. Likely unused.

The User Information and Finder Information fields contain information specific to the Mac OS Finder such as

- Location in Finder window
- If the file is a Bundle or an Alias
- The file's File Type and Creator codes

The table to the right contains the format for HFS+ permissions for the file.

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Resource & Data Forks

## Data Fork

- Generally holds data

## Resource Fork

- Generally holds resources:
  - Custom Icons
  - Executable Code
  - License Information
  - Preferences
  - Pictures
  - Metadata
  - Compressed Files/Data

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

As you may have noticed in the previous slide, the File Record also contains the information about the Data and Resource Forks. This data includes the location and size of each fork.

Mac OS X may use one or both of the forks to contain a file data and metadata.

### References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

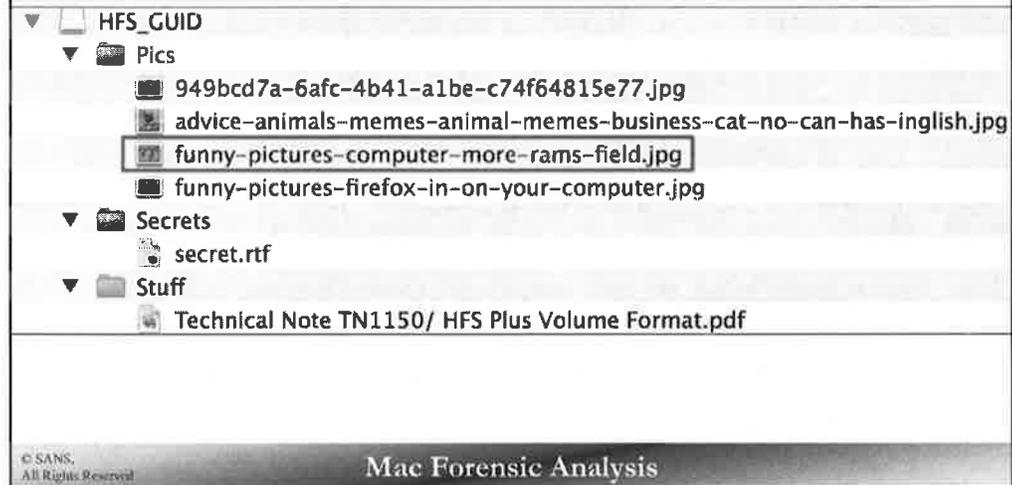
The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

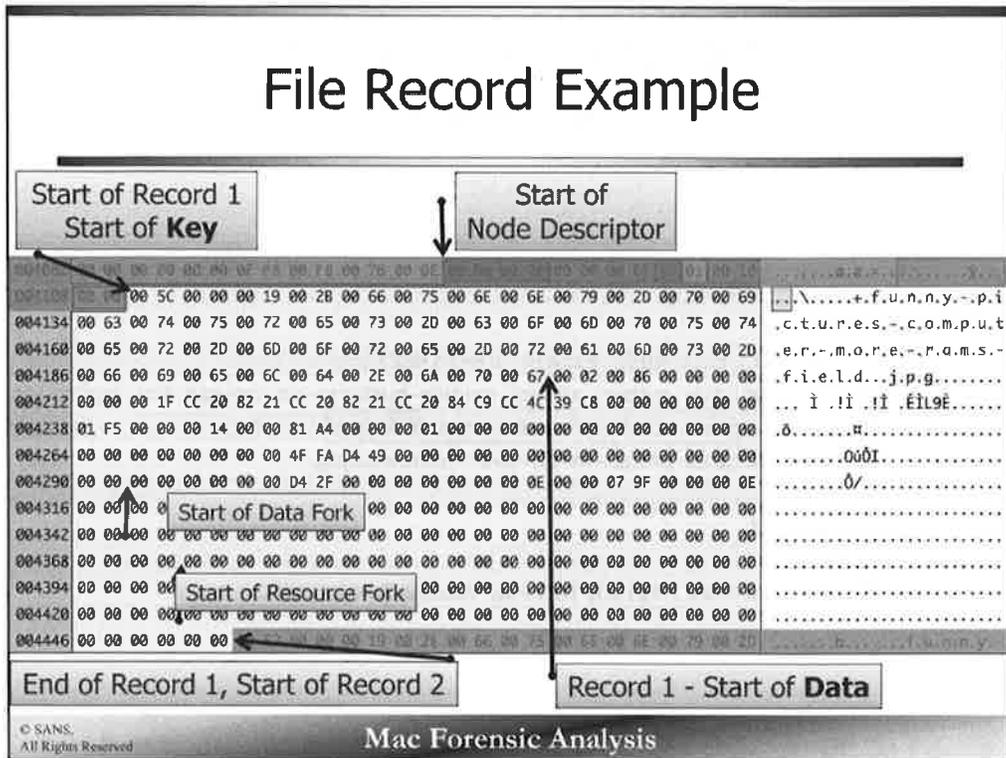
*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

## File Record Example in Finder

---



In our GPT.dmg example, we are going to be looking at the funny-pictures-computer-more-rams-field.jpg file located in the Pics directory shown in the screenshot above.



File Record Example: (Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian)

**KEY:**

- Key Length – 0x005C = 92 bytes
- Key – (Parent Catalog Node ID (CNID)) – 0x00000019 = 25
- Node Name:
  - Node Size - 0x002B = 43 (86 bytes Unicode)
  - Node Name –  
 0x00660075006E006E0079002D00700069006300740075007200650073002D0063006F006D00700075007400650072002D006D006F00720065002D00720061006D0073002D006600690065006C0064002E006A007000670002008600000000 = “funny-pictures-computer-more-rams-field.jpg”

**DATA:**

- Record Type – 0x0002 = 2 = File Record
- Flags – 0x0086
- Reserved – 0x00000000
- File ID (CNID) – 0x0000001F = 31
- Create Date – 0xCC208221 = 3424682529 = 2012-07-09 12:42:09 Mon UTC
- Content Modification Date – 0xCC208221 = 3424682529 = 2012-07-09 12:42:09 Mon UTC
- Attribute Modification Date – 0xCC2084C9 = 3424683209 = 2012-07-09 12:53:29 Mon UTC
- Access Date – 0xCC4C39C8 = 3427547592 = 2012-08-11 16:33:12 Sat UTC
- Backup Date – 0x00000000 - Null Timestamp

...continued on next page...





# File Record Example

## Sanity Check

```
nibble:Exercise 1.3 - HFS+ ompa$ istat -o 48 -2 GMT GPT.dmg 31
File Path: /Pics/funny-pictures-computer-more-rams-field.jpg
Catalog Record: 31
Allocated
Type: File
Mode: rwr-r--r--
Size: 54319
uid / gid: 501 / 20
Link count: 1

File Name: funny-pictures-computer-more-rams-field.jpg
Admin flags: 0
Owner flags: 0
Has extended attributes
File type: 0000
File creator: 0000
Text encoding: 0 = MacRoman
Resource fork size: 0

Times:
Created: 2012-07-09 12:42:09 (GMT)
Content Modified: 2012-07-09 12:42:09 (GMT)
Attributes Modified: 2012-07-09 12:53:29 (GMT)
Accessed: 2012-08-11 16:33:12 (GMT)
Backed Up: 8888-00-00 00:00:00 (UTC)

Data Fork Blocks:
1951-1964

Attributes:
Type: EXATTR (4354-2) Name: com.apple.metadata:kMDItemWhereFroms Resident size: 197
Type: EXATTR (4354-3) Name: com.apple.quarantine Resident size: 89
Type: DATA (4352-0) Name: DATA Non-Resident size: 54319 init size: 54319
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Let's check our results by using the `istat` tool by The Sleuth Kit.

## Catalog File File or Folder Thread Records

Size	Field
2 Bytes	Record Type (0x0003) – Folder Thread Record (0x0004) – File Thread Record
2 Bytes	Reserved
4 Bytes	Parent ID (CNID)
HFSUniStr255	Node Name (File or Folder Name) 2 Bytes – Length <=255 Unicode Name

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Folder and File Thread Records in the Catalog File are used to associate a file or folder to the parent folder's CNID. These records can be remembered as using a thread to sew together a file or folder with its parent directory.

Each File or Folder Thread Record contains:

- The record type will be either 0x0003 or 0x0004 for folder or file, respectively.
- The CNID of the file/folder parent directory.
- The Node Name which is the name of the file or folder in Unicode.

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Folder & File Thread Record Examples

The image displays two hex dump examples of thread records. The top example shows a record starting at offset 005096. A box labeled 'Record Start/Start of Key' points to the beginning of the record, and another box labeled 'Start of Data' points to the start of the data field. The hex data shows a key value of 0006 and a data field of 0018. The bottom example shows a record starting at offset 005720. A box labeled 'Start of Data' points to the beginning of the data field, and another box labeled 'Record Start/Start of Key' points to the start of the key field. The hex data shows a data field starting at 0000 and a key value of 0006. Both examples show hex data and ASCII representations.

In this example we will be looking at the folder and file examples that we analyzed previously.

Folder Thread Record Example: (**Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian**)

Top Example:

**KEY:**

- Key Length – 0x0006 = 6 bytes
- Key – (Parent Catalog Node ID (CNID)) – 0x0000001B = 27
- Data – 0x0000 (Will be “blank” for Thread Records)

**DATA:**

- Record Type – 0x0003 = 3 = Folder Thread Record
- Reserved – 0x0000
- Parent CNID – 0x00000002 = 2
- Node Name:
  - Node Size – 0x0005 = 5 (10 Unicode bytes)
  - Node Name – “Stuff”

Bottom Example:

**KEY:**

- Key Length – 0x0006 = 6 bytes
- Key – (Parent Catalog Node ID (CNID)) – 0x0000001F = 31
- Data – 0x0000 (Will be “blank” for Thread Records)

**DATA:**

- Record Type – 0x0004 = 3 = File Thread Record
- Reserved – 0x0000
- Parent CNID – 0x00000019 = 25
- Node Name:
  - Node Size – 0x002B = 43 (86 Unicode bytes)
  - Node Name – “funny-pictures-computer-more-rams-field.jpg”



## Extents Overflow File

B-tree File

Tracks overflow allocation blocks for a file

Allocation Number, Number of Blocks

First eight blocks in Catalog File Record

Fixed key length

One data record type (Extents)

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Extents Overflow File is another B-tree formatted file. This file tracks the overflow allocation extents that could not fit into the Catalog File Records.

The Catalog File holds the location and size of the first eight extents of a file (eight for each fork), all others will be located in the Extents Overflow File.

The Extents Overflow File uses only one Data Record type.

### References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Extents Overflow File Key & Data Records

Size	Field	Value	Fork Type
2 Bytes	Key Length	0x00	Data Fork
1 Byte	Fork Type	0xFF	Resource Fork
1 Byte	Pad		
4 Bytes	File ID (CNID)		
4 Bytes	Start Block		

Size	Field (For Each Extent)
4 Bytes	Start Block
4 Bytes	Block Count

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Key Record for the Extents Overflow File contains:

- Key Length
- Fork Type - 0x00 for Data or 0xFF for Resource
- Padding
- Catalog Node ID
- Start Block – The block in the file where this extent group starts. (The first eight file extents are in the Catalog File.)

The Data Record will contain extent records containing a Start Block and a Block Count. There may be multiple extents, thus multiple Data Records.

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

## Extents Overflow File Example (...a very fragmented file...)

000	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 12	FF 01 00 2B	00 00 00 0A	.....+...
016	00 00 00 5D	EC 80 00 00	00 0D 02 CF	EF CD 00 00	...].....
032	00 01 02 CF	EF D0 00 00	00 02 02 CF	EF D9 00 00	.....
048	00 02 02 CF	EF DD 00 00	00 01 02 CF	F0 07 00 00	.....
064	00 01 02 CF	F0 1B 00 00	00 01 02 CF	F0 1D 00 00	.....
080	00 01 02 CF	F0 41 00 00	00 03 00 0A	00 00 00 5D	...A.....]
096	EC 80 00 00	00 19 02 CF	F8 B3 00 00	00 02 02 CF	.....
112	F8 B7 00 00	00 01 02 CF	F8 B9 00 00	00 01 02 CF	.....
128	F8 BB 00 00	00 01 02 CF	F8 BE 00 00	00 01 02 CF	.....
144	F8 CE 00 00	00 01 02 CF	F8 D1 00 00	00 02 02 CF	.....
160	F8 DB 00 00	00 01 00 0A	00 00 00 5D	EC 80 00 00	.....]....

© SANS, All Rights Reserved
Mac Forensic Analysis

Extents Overflow Example: **(Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian)**

**(Remember: The first 14 bytes are Node Descriptor) The first record is the highlighted section.**

**KEY:**

- Key Length – 0x000A = 10 bytes
- Fork Type – 0x00 = Data Fork
- Pad – 0x00
- File ID (CNID) – 0x005DEC80 = 6155392
- Start Block – 0x0000000D = 13 (this block count is 13 blocks after the first eight extents in the File Record)

**DATA:**

- Extent 1 – Start Block – 0x02CFEFCF = 47181773
- Extent 1 – Block Count – 0x00000001 = 1
- Extent 2 – Start Block – 0x02CFEFD0 = 47181776
- Extent 2 – Block Count – 0x00000002 = 2
- Extent 3 – Start Block – 0x02CFEFD9 = 47181785
- Extent 3 – Block Count – 0x00000002 = 2
- Extent 4 – Start Block – 0x02CFEFD0 = 47181789
- Extent 4 – Block Count – 0x00000001 = 1
- Extent 5 – Start Block – 0x02CFF007 = 47181831
- Extent 5 – Block Count – 0x00000001 = 1
- Extent 6 – Start Block – 0x02CFF01B = 47181851
- Extent 6 – Block Count – 0x00000001 = 1
- Extent 7 – Start Block – 0x02CFF01D = 47181853
- Extent 7 – Block Count – 0x00000001 = 1
- Extent 8 – Start Block – 0x02CFF041 = 47181889
- Extent 8 – Block Count – 0x00000003 = 3



# Attributes File

- B-tree File
- Variable Key Length
- Three Record Types
  - **Inline Attributes**
  - Fork Data Attributes
  - Extension Attributes

Size	Field
2 bytes	Key Length
2 bytes	Pad
4 bytes	File ID (CNID)
4 bytes	Start Block
2 bytes	Attribute Name Length
Variable	Attribute Name

Value	Record Type
0x00000010	Inline Data Attribute
0x00000020	Fork Data Attribute
0x00000030	Extension Attribute

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The Attributes File is yet another B-tree structured file. To show the age of TN1150, the Attributes File section states “*the structure of the keys in the attribute B-tree has not been finalized and is subject to change*”. The layout of the Key for the Attributes files was found in another favorite Mac source, the Mac OS X Internals book by Amit Singh. This book, while published in 2007, still proves to be a helpful (sometimes dated) resource for Mac forensics.

The Key Record for the Attributes File is comprised of the following fields:

- Key Length
- Pad
- File ID (CNID)
- Start Block (unused for Inline Attributes)
- Attribute Name Length
- Attribute Name

This file uses three types of Data Records. While there are three types, recent versions of OS X are using Inline Attributes.

- Inline Data Attributes
- Fork Data Attributes
- Extension Attributes

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Attributes File

## Inline Attributes - Data Record

Size	Field
4 bytes	Record Type (0x00000010)
8 bytes	Reserved
4 bytes	Attribute Size
Variable: Stored in single B-tree record	Attribute Data

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

By far the most populous Data Record in the Attributes File is the Inline Attribute Data Record. TN1150, again showing its age, described this data record as “*reserved for future use*”.

Discussed later on in the course is Extended Attributes, which is where you will find these type of file metadata. An example of Extended Attributes is the `com.apple.quarantine` attribute. This attribute contains file quarantine information such as when the file was downloaded, what program was used to download the file, etc.

The Inline Attribute Data Record consists of the following fields:

- Record Type (0x00000010)
- Reserved
- Attribute Size
- Attribute Data

References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Attributes File Examples

## Two Extended Attributes

```
nibble:Exercise 1.3 ~ HFS+ compaq istat -o 40 -z GMT GPT.dmg 31
File Path: /Pics/funny-pictures-computer-more-rams-field.jpg
Catalog Record: 31
Allocated
Type: File
Mode: rrw-r--r--
Size: 54319
uid / gid: 501 / 20
Link count: 1

File Name: funny-pictures-computer-more-rams-field.jpg
Admin flags: 0
Owner flags: 0
Has extended attributes
File type: 0000
File creator: 0000
Text encoding: 0 = MacRoman
Resource fork size: 0

Times:
Created: 2012-07-09 12:42:00 (GMT)
Content Modified: 2012-07-09 12:42:00 (GMT)
Attributes Modified: 2012-07-09 12:53:29 (GMT)
Accessed: 2012-08-11 16:33:12 (GMT)
Backed Up: 0000-00-00 00:00:00 (UTC)

Data Fork Blocks:
1951-1964

Attributes:
Type: ExATTR (4354-2) Name: com.apple.metadata:KMDItemWhereFroms Resident size: 197
Type: ExATTR (4354-3) Name: com.apple.quarantine Resident size: 89
Type: DATA (4352-0) Name: DATA Non-Resident size: 54319 init size: 54319
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

We will be looking at the extended attributes from the funny-pictures-computer-more-rams-field.jpg example.

This file has two extended attributes:

- com.apple.metadata:KMDItemWhereFroms
- com.apple.quarantine





# Attributes File Example [2] \*BONUS\*

## com.apple.quarantine

009416	00 34 00 00	.....4p.4..
009438	00 00 00 1F 00 00 00 00 00 14 00 63 00 6F 00 6D 00 2E 00 61 00 70	... ..c.o.m..a.p
009460	00 70 00 6C 00 65 00 2E 00 71 00 75 00 61 00 72 00 61 00 6E 00 74	.p.l.e...q.u.a.r.a.n.t
009482	00 69 00 6E 00 65 00 00 00 10 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 59	.i.n.e.....Y
009504	30 30 30 31 38 34 66 66 61 64 31 61 34 3B 47 6F 6F 67 6C 65 5C 78	0001;4ffad1a4;Google\x
009526	32 30 43 68 72 6F 6D 65 2E 61 70 70 3B 34 45 43 32 43 34 33 30 2D	20Chrome.app;4EC2C430-
009548	34 46 38 43 2D 34 33 41 44 2D 41 37 43 37 2D 34 41 35 34 46 32 43	4F8C-43AD-A7C7-4A54F2C
009570	33 43 38 33 41 7C 63 6F 6D 2E 67 6F 6F 67 6C 65 2E 43 68 72 6F 6D	3C83A|com.google.Chrom
009592	65 68 00 54 00 00 00 00 00 70 00 00 00 00 24 00 01 00 6F 00 00	ek.T.....\$.c.o.m

Attribute File Example: **(Note: HFS+ data uses big-endian)**

These extended attributes are from the funny-pictures-computer-more-rams-field.jpg example.

Attribute 2:

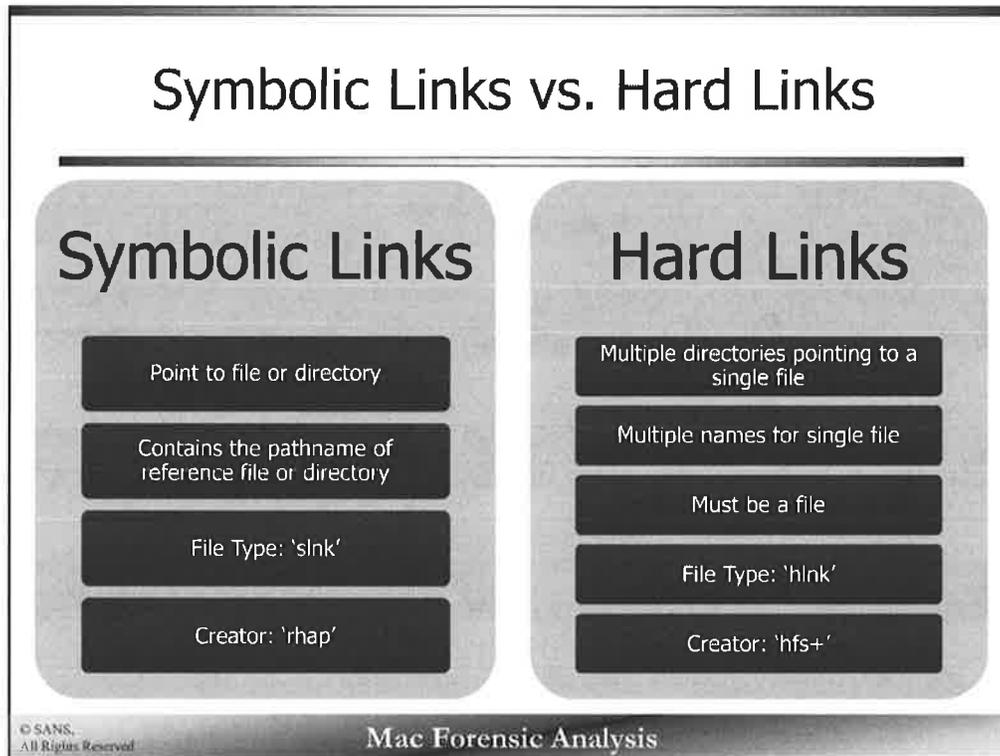
**KEY:**

- Key Length – 0x0034 = 52 bytes
- Pad – 0x0000
- File ID (CNID) – 0x0000001F = 31
- Start Block – 0x00000000 = 0
- Attribute Name Length – 0x0014 = 20 bytes (40 bytes Unicode)
- Attribute Name – “com.apple.quarantine”

**DATA:**

- Record Type – 0x00000010 – Inline Attribute
- Reserved – 0x0000000000000000
- Attribute Size – 0x00000059 = 89 bytes
- Attribute Data – “0001;4ffad1a4;Google\x20Chrome.app;4EC2C430-4F8C-43AD-A7C7-4A54F2C3C83A|com.google.Chrome”





Mac OS X uses two types of links, Hard and Symbolic.

Hard links are used to have multiple directories point to a single file, so there can be multiple names for a single file. Hard links can only be used on a file. Hard link files will have a file type of 'hlnk' and a creator code of 'hfs+'.

Symbolic Links are used to point to a file or directory and can be used on a file or a directory. Symbolic links have a file type of 'slnk' and a creator code of 'rhap'. These are shown in the terminal as follows:

```
lrwxr-xr-x@ 1 root  wheel      11 Jul 15 22:20 etc -> private/etc
lrwxr-xr-x@ 1 root  wheel      11 Jul 15 22:21 tmp -> private/tmp
lrwxr-xr-x@ 1 root  wheel      11 Jul 15 22:21 var -> private/var
```

**References:**

- Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/IIFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/IIFSPLUS/tn1150.html)
- The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)
- Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach by Amit Singh – Chapter 12
- Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# Hard Links

## Indirect Node File

- Traditional UNIX System inode

## Hard Link Files

- Refer to indirect node file
- One hard link file for each reference to the file content

## Metadata Directory

- Contains indirect node files
- “\x0000\x0000\x0000\x0000HFS+ Private Data/”

## Link Reference

- Identification Number, unique across a volume
- iNode# (random number from 100 – 1073741923)

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Hard links use an Indirect Node File to store the actual file data of the hard link, making it similar to an inode in a Unix-based system.

Hard Link Files are used to point to an Indirect Node File, one for each directory that references the file content.

You may have noticed the strange directory in the root of the volume called “^^^^HFS+ Private Data/”, where the caret is a null. This is the Metadata Directory. This directory contains multiple files with the filename “iNode” and some number. These files are the Indirect Node Files. The number after “iNode” is the link reference number. This number is randomly chosen from 100-1073741923. The link reference number is not the same as the files Catalog Node ID number.

### References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubciko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubciko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16

# HFS+ Journal

---

## Journal Info Block File

- `.journal_info_block`
- Root of the volume
- Contains size and location of Journal Header and Buffer

## Journal File

- `.journal`
- Root of the volume
- Contains journal header and buffer

© SANS, All Rights Reserved Mac Forensic Analysis

HFS+ can implement the journaling feature, but is not required. Most Mac OS X installations do, by default, install on HFS+ with journaling enabled.

The journal can be used to restore the file system to a safe state if the volume suffered a crash or was otherwise unmounted ungracefully.

The journal consists of two files, both of which are located in the root of the volume and have the hidden file attribute set.

- `.journal_info_block`
- `.journal`

The Journal Info Block file contains the size and location of the journal header and buffer.

The Journal contains the journal header and buffer. The journal header contains transaction information. The journal buffer holds transactions.

The layout and structure of the journal files will not be covered in this class, however it is detailed in TN1150.

G-C Partners has created a journal parser called “Triforce AHJP HFS+ Journal Parse” is available at <https://www.gettriforce.com/product/hfs-journal-parser/>.

#### References:

Apple Tech Note 1150 – Available at [dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html](http://dubeiko.com/development/FileSystems/HFSPLUS/tn1150.html)

The Sleuth Kit Source – Available at [github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk\\_hfs.h](https://github.com/sleuthkit/sleuthkit/blob/master/tsk/fs/tsk_hfs.h)

*Mac OS X Internals: A Systems Approach* by Amit Singh – Chapter 12

*Mac OS X and iOS Internals: To the Apple's Core* by Jonathan Levin – Chapter 16



---

## Exercise 1.3 – HFS+

---

This page intentionally left blank.

# Agenda

---

Part 1 – Mac Fundamentals

Part 2 – Acquisition & Live Response

Part 3 – Disks & Partitions

Part 4 – HFS+ File System

Part 5 – Mounting Disk Images

Part 6 – BlackLight 101

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

This page intentionally left blank.



---

## Section 1 – Part 5

# Mounting Disk Images

---

This page intentionally left blank.

## Method 1 - xmount

```
1. $ mkdir /Volumes/dademurphy_image/
2. $ mkdir /Volumes/dademurphy_mounted/
3. $ sudo xmount --in ewf --out dmg
   ~/FOR518/dademurphy.E01 /Volumes/dademurphy_image/
4. $ hdiutil attach -nomount
   /Volumes/dademurphy_image/dademurphy.dmg
5. $ mount_hfs -j -o rdonly,noexec,noowners /dev/disk#
   /Volumes/dademurphy_mounted/
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The first method to mount an image file is to use the `xmount` command from [www.penguin.lu/index.php](http://www.penguin.lu/index.php).

1. Use the `mkdir` command to create a mount point for the `xmount` output. In this class the directory name `dademurphy_image` is used because it will just host the image file.
2. Use the `mkdir` command to create a mount point for the mounted drive. The directory `dademurphy_mounted` is used in this class to represent the mounted disk image.
3. Uses `xmount` to mount the `dademurphy.e01` image (where you have your image located, the example shows `~/FOR518`) as a DMG file. This command requires you to use the `sudo` command, thus it will ask you for your administrator password when executed.
  - `--in` – Tells `xmount` what input file type to expect, our images are in a compressed EWF format.
  - `--out` – Tells `xmount` what output format you want, we want a DMG file so we can mount it in Finder.
  - Input File – Where the image file is located.
  - Mount Point – Newly created specifically for this image.
4. Uses the `hdiutil` command with the “attach” verb to mount the newly created DMG volume so it is available in Finder and Terminal application. Use the `-nomount` argument to suppress mounting (for now). The output from this command will display a `/dev/disk#`, use the appropriate disk device in the next command.
5. Use the `mount_hfs` command with the following parameters to mount the `/dev/disk#` (from the previous command) to the `/Volumes/dademurphy_mounted/` mount point. This drive will now be available in the Finder or Terminal applications.
  - j – Ignore the journal
  - o – Options:
    - `rdonly` – Mount in read-only mode.
    - `noexec` – Do not allow execution of binaries on mounted system.
    - `noowners` – Ignore ownership on the mounted volume.

You can access this newly created mounted drive on `/Volumes/dademurphy_mounted/`.

## Method 2 - ewfmount

```
1. $ mkdir /Volumes/dademurphy_image/
2. $ mkdir /Volumes/dademurphy_mounted/
3. $ ewfmount ~/FOR518/dademurphy.E01
   /Volumes/dademurphy_image/
4. $ ln -s /Volumes/dademurphy_image/ewf1
   ~/FOR518/dadeimage.dmg
5. $ hdiutil attach -nomount ~/FOR518/dadeimage.dmg
6. $ mount_hfs -j -o ronly,noexec,noowners /dev/disk#
   /Volumes/dademurphy_mounted/
```

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

It can never hurt to have more than one way to mount an image. A second way uses the `ewfmount` command from the `libewf` package available at [code.google.com/p/libewf/](http://code.google.com/p/libewf/).

1. Use the `mkdir` command to create a mount point for the `ewfmount` output. The directory name `dademurphy_image` is used in the example.
2. Use the `mkdir` command again to create a mount point for the mounted disk image, the example `dademurphy_mounted` in used the example above.
3. Use `ewfmount` to mount the `dademurphy.e01` image to the `/Volumes/dadmurphy_image/` mount point.
4. Use the `ln -s` command to create a symbolic link for the `ewf1` file, name the link `dadeimage.dmg`. (A DMG file is needed for `hdiutil` to recognize the file.)
5. Uses the `hdiutil` command with the “attach” verb to mount the newly created DMG volume so it is available in Finder and Terminal application. Use the `-nomount` argument to suppress mounting (for now). The output from this command will display a `/dev/disk#`, use the appropriate disk device in the next command.
6. Use the `mount_hfs` command with the following parameters to mount the `/dev/disk#` (from the previous command) to the `/Volumes/dademurphy_mounted/` mount point. This drive will now be available in the Finder or Terminal applications.
  - j – Ignore the journal
  - o – Options:
    - `rdonly` – Mount in read-only mode.
    - `noexec` – Do not allow execution of binaries on mounted system.
    - `noowners` – Ignore ownership on the mounted volume.

You can access this newly created mounted drive on `/Volumes/dademurphy_mounted/`.

# Disk Eject & Unmount

---

```
1. $ diskutil list
2. $ diskutil eject /dev/disk*
3. $ mount
4. $ umount /Volumes/dademurphy_image/
```

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

The disk images should stay mounted and available until you reboot or until you eject/unmount them.

When you are finished with the mounted images, you will need to eject and unmount them.

1. Use the `diskutil list` command to view the list of mounted disks. Find the disk that you want to eject.
2. Use the `diskutil eject` command on the disk you would like to eject. (This may also be done by pressing the eject button in the Finder application.)
3. Use the `mount` command to view the list of mounted disks. Find the disk that you want to unmount (likely `/Volumes/dademurphy_image/`, if you following the naming scheme from the examples.)
4. Use the `umount` command with the mount point to unmount the disk. A troublesome disk may have to be unmounted using the `-f` option, to forcibly unmount the disk.

# Agenda

---

Part 1 – Mac Fundamentals

Part 2 – Acquisition & Live Response

Part 3 – Disks & Partitions

Part 4 – HFS+ File System

Part 5 – Mounting Disk Images

Part 6 – BlackLight 101

© SANS.  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

This page intentionally left blank.



---

# Section 1 – Part 6

## BlackLight 101

---

This page intentionally left blank.

**BlackBag Technologies**  
**BlackLight**

---

- Forensic Suite specially designed for Mac analysis (will also analyze Windows systems!)
- Runs natively on Mac or Windows Systems
- Image Formats: dd, dmg, sparsebundle, sparseimage, vmdk, E01, L01, SMART, iXAM, Zdziarski, Cellebrite, Elcomsoft, and MPE+
- Logical extraction from iDevices

© SANS. All Rights Reserved **Mac Forensic Analysis**

The image is a presentation slide for BlackBag Technologies' BlackLight forensic suite. It features a title at the top, followed by four bullet points in dark rounded rectangles, and a footer with copyright information and the text 'Mac Forensic Analysis'.

We will be using the BlackLight forensic suite in class for some of the labs; however, it will be available during the whole of the class via the Network License Server running on your instructor's laptop.

The suite runs natively on both Mac and Windows-based systems (normally with a USB dongle, or a Network License server setup at your agency).

Along with the cross-platform capabilities– the software can also analyze Mac and Windows file systems – this is convenient when a system has been Boot Camped.

Most disk image formats are accepted as well as many from the most popular iDevice acquisition suites.

While BlackLight is not an acquisition tool (MacQuisition is used for acquisition), it is able to acquire a logical extraction from iDevices.

The BlackLight software is available from BlackBag Technologies, [blackbagtech.com](http://blackbagtech.com).

# BlackLight Details Tab

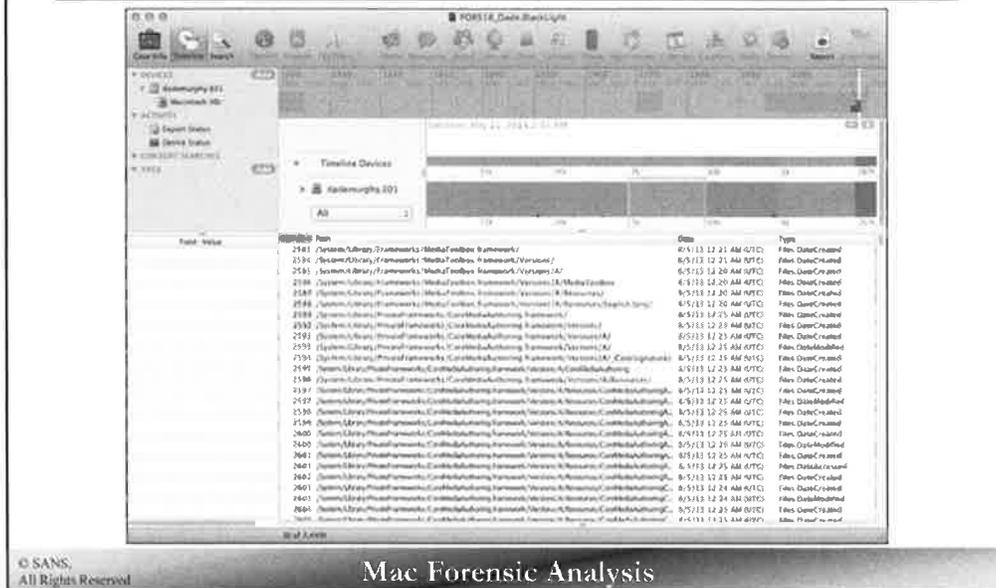


By selecting the Macintosh HD drive under the DEVICES section, we can view the disk Details tab.

The information in this “Summary” window includes file system specifics and user accounts.

You may select and explore the other tabs, “Artifacts”, “History”, and “Disk View”.

# BlackLight Timeline Tab



The Timeline tab shows a timeline information for the selected hard drive. This can be zoomed in/out for specific timeline analysis.

# BlackLight Search Tab



The Search tab allows an investigator to perform keyword searches.

Each keyword list has a Name as filled in the Name textbox. The keywords may be typed in the Keywords pane.

File extensions may be ignored, but typing them into the Ignore Extensions pane. Other keyword configurations may be selected in the pane on the right side.

Select "Start Search" when ready search.

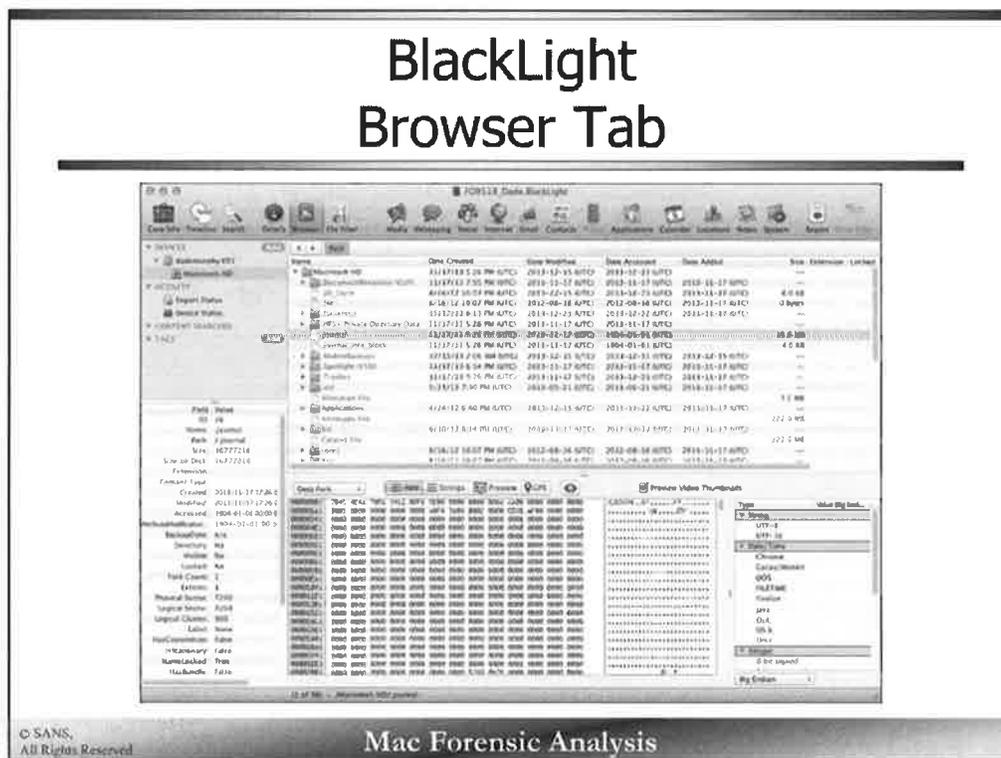
# BlackLight Content Searches



The Content Searches window will appear once a search has started. This window shows the results from the keyword search, as well as the progression.

You may select the “Criteria” or “Statistics” tabs for more information pertaining to this particular keyword search.

# BlackLight Browser Tab

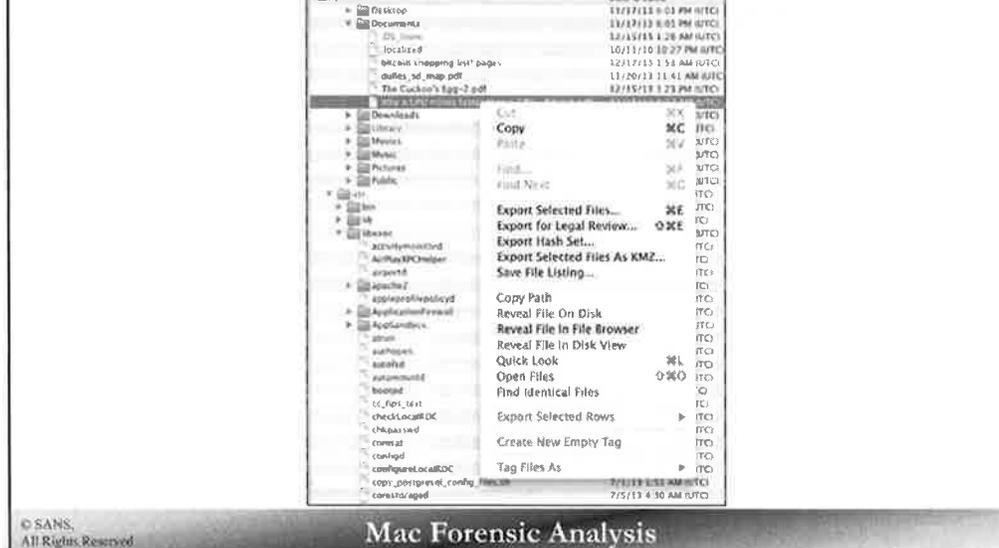


The Browser tab shows the file system as an investigator is most likely used to. This view shows the file system in a tree format with hidden files shown in gray and other file metadata including timestamps and file size.

In the lower pane (the bar may have to be moved up from the bottom of the window) shows the file. The views available include Hex, Strings, Preview, and GPS. An analyst may also select the “eye” shaped button to do a “Quick Look” on the file. The Data and Resource fork may also be chosen. In the Hex view the data-type window on the right will be shown for the analyst to select various data types if conversion is needed.

In the lower-left pane the file metadata and extended attributes are shown. Everything from file size, file name, timestamps, Finder data, disk location, to extended attributes are available in this window. Lots of good information may be found here!

# BlackLight Context Menu



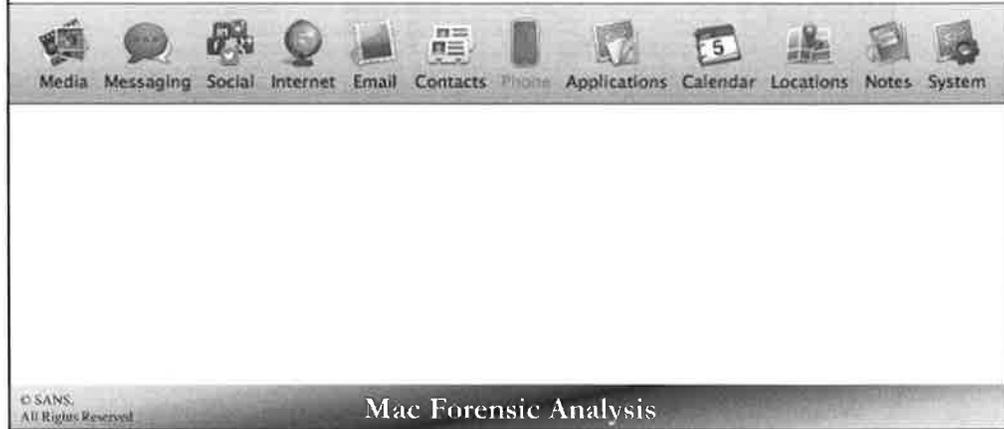
A “right-click” (or two-finger click on a track pad, or control-click) will bring up a context menu as shown above. This menu allows the analyst to perform certain actions such as export information, jump to a file location, or tag a file.

File tagging is similar to bookmarking as seen in other forensic suites. These tags will show up in the left pane under “TAGS”.



# BlackLight Artifact Tabs

---



BlackLight also does some pre-processing when it comes to various popular artifacts. We will be reviewing some of these more in-depth during the course exercises, but you may start reviewing the contents on your own time.



---

# Exercise 1.4 – BlackLight and Image Mounting

---

This page intentionally left blank.

# Agenda

---

Part 1 – Mac Fundamentals

Part 2 – Acquisition & Live Response

Part 3 – Disks & Partitions

Part 4 – HFS+ File System

Part 5 – Mounting Disk Images

Part 6 – BlackLight 101

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

This page intentionally left blank.

**SANS** COMPUTER  
and INCIDENT RESPONSE



---

# FOR518 Mac Forensic Analysis

---

The **SANS** Institute



Sarah Edwards  
oompa@csh.rit.edu  
@iamevltwin



@sansforensics

<http://computer-forensics.sans.org>

© SANS,  
All Rights Reserved

Mac Forensic Analysis

Author: Sarah Edwards

[oompa@csh.rit.edu](mailto:oompa@csh.rit.edu)

<http://twitter.com/iamevltwin>

<http://twitter.com/sansforensics>

