

Computer Forensics

Kickstart Training



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TLP: CLEAR

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2.1 Data in a binary system

- BIT → Binary digit
- Data stored in binary form
x Bits --> 01010000011010010110111001100111 --> y Bits
Bit $x + 2 = 1$
Bit $x + 3 = 0$
→ What information is stored within this data?
- *"..... information is data arranged in a meaningful way for some perceived purpose"* → Interpretative rules
- Grouping, addressing and interpreting
--> 01010000 01101001 01101110 01100111 -->
----- ----- ----- -----
--> Byte 117 Byte 118 Byte 119 Byte 120 -->

2.1 Data in a binary system

- Grouping examples:
 - Nibble: 0101 0000 0110 1001 0110 1110 0110 0111
 - Byte: 01010000 01101001 01101110 01100111
 - Word: 0101000001101001 0110111001100111
 - Double Word: 01010000011010010110111001100111

- Interpreting:
 - Integer: (Signed, Unsigned)
 - Endian: (Big, Little)
 - Floating Point
 - Binary Coded Decimal, Packed BCD
 - Encoding: (ASCII, ISO8859, Unicode 16L, 16B, 32L, 32B)
 - Binary: (ELF, MZ, PE, GIF, JPEG, ZIP, PDF, OLE, ...)
 - ...

2.2 Number Systems

- Decimal:

$$\begin{array}{r} 2145 \\ |||| - \quad 5 * 10^0 = \quad 5 \\ ||| -- \quad 4 * 10^1 = \quad 40 \\ || --- \quad 1 * 10^2 = \quad 100 \\ |---- \quad 2 * 10^3 = \quad 2,000 \\ \hline 2,145 \end{array}$$

- Binary:

$$\begin{array}{r} 1111 \\ |||| - \quad 1 * 2^0 = \quad 1 \\ ||| -- \quad 1 * 2^1 = \quad 2 \\ || --- \quad 1 * 2^2 = \quad 4 \\ |---- \quad 1 * 2^3 = \quad 8 \\ \hline 15 = 1111 \end{array}$$

- Hexadecimal:

$$\begin{array}{r} 2A9F \\ |||| - \quad 15 * 16^0 = \quad 15 \\ ||| -- \quad 09 * 16^1 = \quad 144 \\ || --- \quad 10 * 16^2 = \quad 2,560 \\ |---- \quad 02 * 16^3 = \quad 8,192 \\ \hline 10,911 = 0x2A9F \end{array}$$

2.3 Interpreting binary data: Integer

0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0

	0 * 2 ⁰ =	0
	0 * 2 ¹ =	0
	0 * 2 ² =	0
	0 * 2 ³ =	0
	1 * 2 ⁴ =	16
	0 * 2 ⁵ =	0
	1 * 2 ⁶ =	64
	0 * 2 ⁷ =	0

80

2.3 Interpreting binary data: Signed Integer

```
1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1
-----
| | | | | | | |
```

```
0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1
```

```
    |                |
```

```
64                1
-----
                -65
```

Two's complement:

1. Invert all single bits
2. Add the value 1

3. Convert to Decimal

2.4 Exercise: Signed Integer Bytes

```
1 1 0 1 1 1 0 0
-----
| | | | | | | |
```

Two's complement:

1. Invert all single bits
2. Add the value 1

```
      |      |
      ?      ?
-----
                -??
```

3. Convert to Decimal

2.4 Exercise: Signed Integer Bytes

1 1 0 1 1 1 0 0

| | | | | | | |

0 0 1 0 0 0 1 1

0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0

| |

32 4

-36

Two's complement:

1. Invert all single bits
2. Add the value 1

3. Convert to Decimal

2.4 Exercise: Challenge on 1 byte signed Integer

- Find biggest possible positive number

→

- Find smallest possible positive number

→

- Find biggest possible negative number

→

- Find smallest possible negative number

→

2.4 Exercise: Challenge on 1 byte signed Integer

- Find biggest possible positive number

0111 1111 \rightarrow 127

- Find smallest possible positive number

0000 0000 \rightarrow 0

- Find biggest possible negative number

_____ \rightarrow

- Find smallest possible negative number

_____ \rightarrow

2.4 Exercise: Challenge on 1 byte signed Integer

- Find biggest possible positive number

0111 1111 \rightarrow 127

- Find smallest possible positive number

0000 0000 \rightarrow 0

- Find biggest possible negative number

1111 1111
0000 0000
0000 0001 \rightarrow -1

- Find smallest possible negative number

1000 0000
0111 1111
1000 0000 \rightarrow -128

2.5 From Bin to Hex

Example:

0001 1000

1 8

0101 0101

5 5

0000 1111

0 F

1010 0110

A 6

Exercise:

1001 0110

1010 0101

0000 1111

1100 0011

2.5 From Bin to Hex

Exercise:

1001 0110

1010 0101

0000 1111

1100 0011

Results:

1001 0110

9 6

1010 0101

A 5

0000 1111

0 F

1100 0011

C 3

2.6 Big Endian and Little Endian

Multibyte words:

Example: 256 in Big Endian representation :

2 ⁿ :	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Data:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Address:	10.000								10.001							

Multibyte words:

Example: 256 in Little Endian representation :

2 ⁿ :	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Data:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Address:	10.000								10.001							

2.6 Exercise: Little Endian

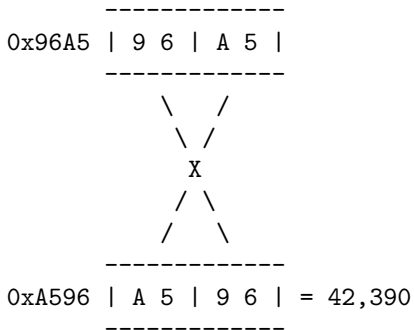
Read and interpret this little endian 2 byte 'word'

0x96A5 | 9 6 | A 5 |

0x | | | =

2.6 Exercise: Little Endian

Read and interpret this little endian 2 byte 'word'



2.6 Exercise: Little Endian

Read and interpret this little endian 'double word'

0x1B2A0100 | 1 B | 2 A | 0 1 | 0 0 |

0x | | | | =

2.6 Exercise: Little Endian

Read and interpret this little endian 'double word'

```
-----  
0x1B2A0100 | 1 B | 2 A | 0 1 | 0 0 |  
-----  
          \___  \ /  ___/  
            \___ \ / ___/  
              --- X ---  
            /___ / \ ___/  
          /___ /  \ ___/  
-----  
0x00012A1B | 0 0 | 0 1 | 2 A | 1 B | = 76,315  
-----
```

2.7 Example: Other interpretation of binary data

BCD / PBCD

2	9	1	/	6	na	0	9
-----	-----	-----	/	-----	-----		
00000010	00001001	00000001	/	01101010	00001001		

ASCII

01110000	01101001	01101110	01100111
-----	-----	-----	-----
0x70	0x65	0x6E	0x67
112	105	110	103
p	i	n	g

2.8 Data structures: Exercise

- Can you read this data?
- Can you extract information out of this data?
- Can you generate knowledge out of this data?

```
0100010001000110010001010100000100001000000011100000000011111111
101110100011001010111001101110100001011100111010001111000011101
000010001001001000011001010110110001101100011011110010000001010
111011011110111001001101100011001000010001000001101010001000100
01100100010101000001000001110000000100000001000000001100100011
001100110100101110010001011100011011000110100010100100100010101
011010010010100101010101101001010000100111100101100100010101110
111100001101100011001010110011101101111001111010000101011111111
11111111111111111111111111
```

2.8 Data structures: Organizing data

0

8

16

|44|46|45|41|08|0E|00|FF|74|65|73|74|2E|74|78|74|22|48|65|6C|6C|6F|20|57|

24

32

40

|6F|72|6C|64|22|0D|44|46|45|41|07|11|00|00|64|66|69|72|2E|36|34|52|45|5A|

48

56

64

|4A|55|69|42|79|64|57|78|6C|65|67|6F|3D|0A|FF|FF|FF|FF| | | | | |

2.8 Data structures: Definition of the structure

0	8	16
<hr/>		
44 46 45 41 08 0E 00 FF 74 65 73 74 2E 74 78 74 22 48 65 6C 6C 6F 20 57		
<hr/>		
24	32	40
<hr/>		
6F 72 6C 64 22 0D 44 46 45 41 07 11 00 00 64 66 69 72 2E 36 34 52 45 5A		
<hr/>		
48	56	64
<hr/>		
4A 55 69 42 79 64 57 78 6C 65 67 6F 3D 0A FF FF FF FF		
<hr/>		

Offset	Size	Description
0	4	Header signature (ASCII: DFEA – Digital Forensics EDU Archive)
4	1	Length of file name (Integer)
5	2	Length of data (Little Endian)
7	1	Type of data (Signed Integer) (-1 = ASCII; 0 = base64 encoded)
8	—	Variable file name (ASCII)
9++	—	Data (Binary)
-	EOF	4 EOF signature (Binary: FF FF FF FF)

2.8 Data structures: Apply structure

0	8	16
44 46 45 41 08 0E 00 FF 74 65 73 74 2E 74 78 74 22 48 65 6C 6C 6F 20 57		
24	32	40
6F 72 6C 64 22 0D 44 46 45 41 07 11 00 00 64 66 69 72 2E 36 34 52 45 5A		
48	56	64
4A 55 69 42 79 64 57 78 6C 65 67 6F 3D 0A FF FF FF FF		

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8	—	Variable file name (ASCII)
9++	—	Data (Binary)
-	EOF	4 EOF signature (Binary: FF FF FF FF)

2.8 Data structures: Read information

0	8	16
44 46 45 41 08 0E 00 FF 74 65 73 74 2E 74 78 74 22 48 65 6C 6C 6F 20 57		
D F E A		
24	32	40
6F 72 6C 64 22 0D 44 46 45 41 07 11 00 00 64 66 69 72 2E 36 34 52 45 5A		
48	56	64
4A 55 69 42 79 64 57 78 6C 65 67 6F 3D 0A FF FF FF FF		

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8	—	Variable file name (ASCII)
9++	—	Data (Binary)
-	EOF	4 EOF signature (Binary: FF FF FF FF)

2.8 Data structures: Read information

0	8	16
44 46 45 41 08 0E 00 FF 74 65 73 74 2E 74 78 74 22 48 65 6C 6C 6F 20 57		
D F E A 8		
24	32	40
6F 72 6C 64 22 0D 44 46 45 41 07 11 00 00 64 66 69 72 2E 36 34 52 45 5A		
48	56	64
4A 55 69 42 79 64 57 78 6C 65 67 6F 3D 0A FF FF FF FF		

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8	—	Variable file name (ASCII)
9++	—	Data (Binary)
-	EOF	4 EOF signature (Binary: FF FF FF FF)

2.8 Data structures: Read information

0	8	16
44 46 45 41 08 0E 00 FF 74 65 73 74 2E 74 78 74 22 48 65 6C 6C 6F 20 57		
D F E A 8 14		
24	32	40
6F 72 6C 64 22 0D 44 46 45 41 07 11 00 00 64 66 69 72 2E 36 34 52 45 5A		
48	56	64
4A 55 69 42 79 64 57 78 6C 65 67 6F 3D 0A FF FF FF FF		

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7	1	Type of data (Signed Integer) (-1 = ASCII; 0 = base64 encoded)
8	—	Variable file name (ASCII)
9++	—	Data (Binary)
-	EOF	4 EOF signature (Binary: FF FF FF FF)

2.8 Data structures: Read information

0	8	16
44 46 45 41 08 0E 00 FF 74 65 73 74 2E 74 78 74 22 48 65 6C 6C 6F 20 57		
D F E A 8 14 -1		
24	32	40
6F 72 6C 64 22 0D 44 46 45 41 07 11 00 00 64 66 69 72 2E 36 34 52 45 5A		
48	56	64
4A 55 69 42 79 64 57 78 6C 65 67 6F 3D 0A FF FF FF FF		

Offset	Size	Description
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7	1	Type of data (Signed Integer) (-1 = ASCII; 0 = base64 encoded)
8	—	Variable file name (ASCII)
9++	—	Data (Binary)
-	EOF	4 EOF signature (Binary: FF FF FF FF)

2.8 Data structures: Apply information

0	8	16
<hr/>		
44 46 45 41 08 0E 00 FF 74 65 73 74 2E 74 78 74 22 48 65 6C 6C 6F 20 57		
<hr/>		
D F E A 8 14 -1		
<hr/>		
24	32	40
<hr/>		
6F 72 6C 64 22 0D 44 46 45 41 07 11 00 00 64 66 69 72 2E 36 34 52 45 5A		
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
48	56	64
<hr/>		
4A 55 69 42 79 64 57 78 6C 65 67 6F 3D 0A FF FF FF FF		
<hr/>		

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7	1	Type of data (Signed Integer) (-1 = ASCII; 0 = base64 encoded)
8	—	Variable file name (ASCII)
9++	—	Data (Binary)
-	EOF	4 EOF signature (Binary: FF FF FF FF)

2.8 Data structures: Interpret bytes

0	8	16
44 46 45 41 08 0E 00 FF 74 65 73 74 2E 74 78 74 22 48 65 6C 6C 6F 20 57		
D F E A 8 14 -1 t e s t . t x t		
24	32	40
6F 72 6C 64 22 0D 44 46 45 41 07 11 00 00 64 66 69 72 2E 36 34 52 45 5A		
48	56	64
4A 55 69 42 79 64 57 78 6C 65 67 6F 3D 0A FF FF FF FF		

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5	2	Length of data (Little Endian)
7	1	Type of data (Signed Integer) (-1 = ASCII; 0 = base64 encoded)
8	—	Variable file name (ASCII)
9++	—	Data (Binary)
-	EOF	4 EOF signature (Binary: FF FF FF FF)

2.8 Data structures: Interpret bytes

0	8	16
44 46 45 41 08 0E 00 FF 74 65 73 74 2E 74 78 74 22 48 65 6C 6C 6F 20 57		
D F E A 8 14 -1 t e s t . t x t " H e l l o W		
24	32	40
6F 72 6C 64 22 0D 44 46 45 41 07 11 00 00 64 66 69 72 2E 36 34 52 45 5A		
o r l d " CR		
48	56	64
4A 55 69 42 79 64 57 78 6C 65 67 6F 3D 0A FF FF FF FF		

Offset	Size	Description
0	4	Header signature (ASCII: DFEA – Digital Forensics EDU Archive)
4	1	Length of file name (Integer)
5	2	Length of data (Little Endian)
7	1	Type of data (Signed Integer) (-1 = ASCII; 0 = base64 encoded)
8	—	Variable file name (ASCII)
9++	—	Data (Binary)
-	EOF	4 EOF signature (Binary: FF FF FF FF)

2.8 Data structures: Exercise: Your turn

0	8	16
44 46 45 41 08 0E 00 FF 74 65 73 74 2E 74 78 74 22 48 65 6C 6C 6F 20 57		
D F E A 8 14 -1 t e s t . t x t " H e l l o W		
24	32	40
6F 72 6C 64 22 0D 44 46 45 41 07 11 00 00 64 66 69 72 2E 36 34 52 45 5A		
o r l d " CR		
48	56	64
4A 55 69 42 79 64 57 78 6C 65 67 6F 3D 0A FF FF FF FF		

Offset	Size	Description
0	4	Header signature (ASCII: DFEA – Digital Forensics EDU Archive)
4	1	Length of file name (Integer)
5	2	Length of data (Little Endian)
7	1	Type of data (Signed Integer) (-1 = ASCII; 0 = base64 encoded)
8	—	Variable file name (ASCII)
9++	—	Data (Binary)
-	EOF	4 EOF signature (Binary: FF FF FF FF)

2.8 Data structures: Exercise: Solution

0	8	16
44 46 45 41 08 0E 00 FF 74 65 73 74 2E 74 78 74 22 48 65 6C 6C 6F 20 57		
D F E A 8 14 -1 t e s t . t x t " H e l l o W		
24	32	40
6F 72 6C 64 22 0D 44 46 45 41 07 11 00 00 64 66 69 72 2E 36 34 52 45 5A		
o r l d " CR D F E A 7 17 0 d f i r . 6 4 R E Z		
48	56	64
4A 55 69 42 79 64 57 78 6C 65 67 6F 3D 0A FF FF FF FF		
J U i B y d W x l e g 0 = NL FF FF FF FF		

Offset	Size	Description
0	4	Header signature (ASCII: DFEA – Digital Forensics EDU Archive)
4	1	Length of file name (Integer)
5	2	Length of data (Little Endian)
7	1	Type of data (Signed Integer) (-1 = ASCII; 0 = base64 encoded)
8	—	Variable file name (ASCII)
9++	—	Data (Binary)
-	EOF	4 EOF signature (Binary: FF FF FF FF)

2.9 Data, files, context

- Sequence of Bits + Addressing + Interpretation → Information
 - Where did you find the suspicious data?
 - Binary inside TEMP folder
 - Autorun folder
 - Registry
 - Browser history
 - Command line history
- Data → Information → Knowledge

- Information → Stored in files
- Files → Contains data
- Files → Data organized in data structures
- Files → Meta data describe files
- Files → File systems organize files and meta data