

BitCurator: Digital Forensics for Collecting Institutions

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BitCurator



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MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR
TECHNOLOGY IN THE HUMANITIES

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

What it is

- BitCurator packages forensics software (in a Linux virtual machine) to augment digital curation workflows in real-world collecting institutions:
 - Reliable acquisition of bitstreams from digital media
 - Scalable forensic analysis of disk images / heterogeneous collections of documents
 - Metadata acquisition from common file systems
 - Preservation metadata and finding aid metadata export
 - Data visualization for complex data sources
 - Redaction of private and sensitive information
 - Identification and removal of duplicate files

Why it's different

Commercial forensics tools are typically **expensive**, and not always as **reliable** as you'd expect.

Lots of things important to **collecting institutions** that **aren't a priority** for forensics developers: **access, redaction, preservation metadata, etc...**

BitCurator packages open source forensics tech into a simple-to-use virtual environment to help you simplify the process of analyzing complex digital materials.

The cruising altitude view

Write-blocked physical media acquisition



Creating Digital Forensics XML to describe disk images



Bulk Extractor

Scanner	Description
scan_accts	Looks for phone numbers, credit card numbers, and other account-related information.
scan_base64	Decodes BASE64 text.
scan_kml	Detects KML (Keyhole Markup Language) files – used to identify geographic locations.
scan_gps	Detects XML from Garmin GPS devices.
scan_aes	Detects in-memory AES (Advanced Encryption Standard) keys from the key schedules.
scan_json	Detects JavaScript Object Notation files.
scan_exif	Detects EXIF structures from JPEG files.
scan_zip	Detects and decompresses ZIP files and streams.
scan_gzip	Detects and decompresses GZIP streams.
scan_pdf	Extracts text from some kinds of PDF files.
scan_hiber	Detects and decompresses Windows hiber file fragments.
scan_winprefetch	Detects and extracts fields from Windows prefetch file fragments.

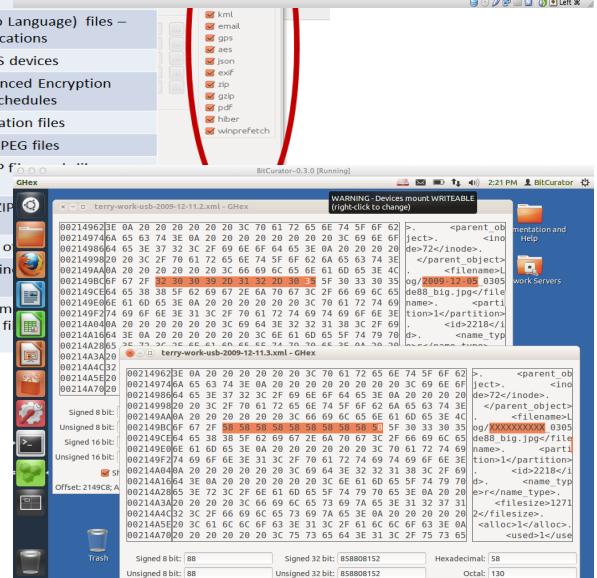
```
<dfxml version="1.0">
  <metadata>
    <dc:type>Disk Image</dc:type>
  </metadata>
  <creator version="1.0">
    <program>bulk</program>
    <version>1.0</version>
  </creator>
  <build_environment>
    <compiler>GCC 4.6</compiler>
    <library name="stlffl" version="3.1.1"/>
    <library name="libewf" version="20130416"/>
  </build_environment>
  <execution_environment>
    <os>Ubuntu 12.04 LTS</os>
    <fwkwl>4-X/home/bcadmin/Desktop/SampleData/sampleimage.xml /home/bcadmin/Desktop/SampleData
/sampl&lt;/fwkwl>
    <start_time>2013-07-20T05:34:37Z</start_time>
  </execution_environment>
  <creator>
    <source>
      <image filename=>/home/bcadmin/Desktop/SampleData/sampleimage.E01</image_filename>
    </source>
    <fs start=>0</fs_start>
    <volume offset=>0</volume_offset>
      <partition offset=>0</partition_offset>
        <sector_size>512</sector_size>
        <block_size>512</block_size>
      <type>1</type>
    </creator>
    <scanner>
      <image filename=>/home/bcadmin/Desktop/SampleData/sampleimage.E01</image_filename>
    </scanner>
  </creator>
  <source>
    <image filename=>/home/bcadmin/Desktop/SampleData/sampleimage.E01</image_filename>
  </source>
  <volume offset=>0</volume_offset>
    <partition offset=>0</partition_offset>
      <sector_size>512</sector_size>
      <block_size>512</block_size>
    <type>1</type>
  </volume>
  <scanner>
    <image filename=>/home/bcadmin/Desktop/SampleData/sampleimage.E01</image_filename>
  </scanner>
</dfxml>
```

Identifying potentially private information



Scanner	Description
scan_accts	Looks for phone numbers, credit card numbers, and other account-related information.
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scan_gps	Detects XML from Garmin GPS devices.
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scan_exif	Detects EXIF structures from JPEG files.
scan_zip	Detects and decompresses ZIP files and streams.
scan_gzip	Detects and decompresses GZIP streams.
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scan_hiber	Detects and decompresses Windows hiber file fragments.
scan_winprefetch	Detects and extracts fields from Windows prefetch file fragments.

Selective data redaction

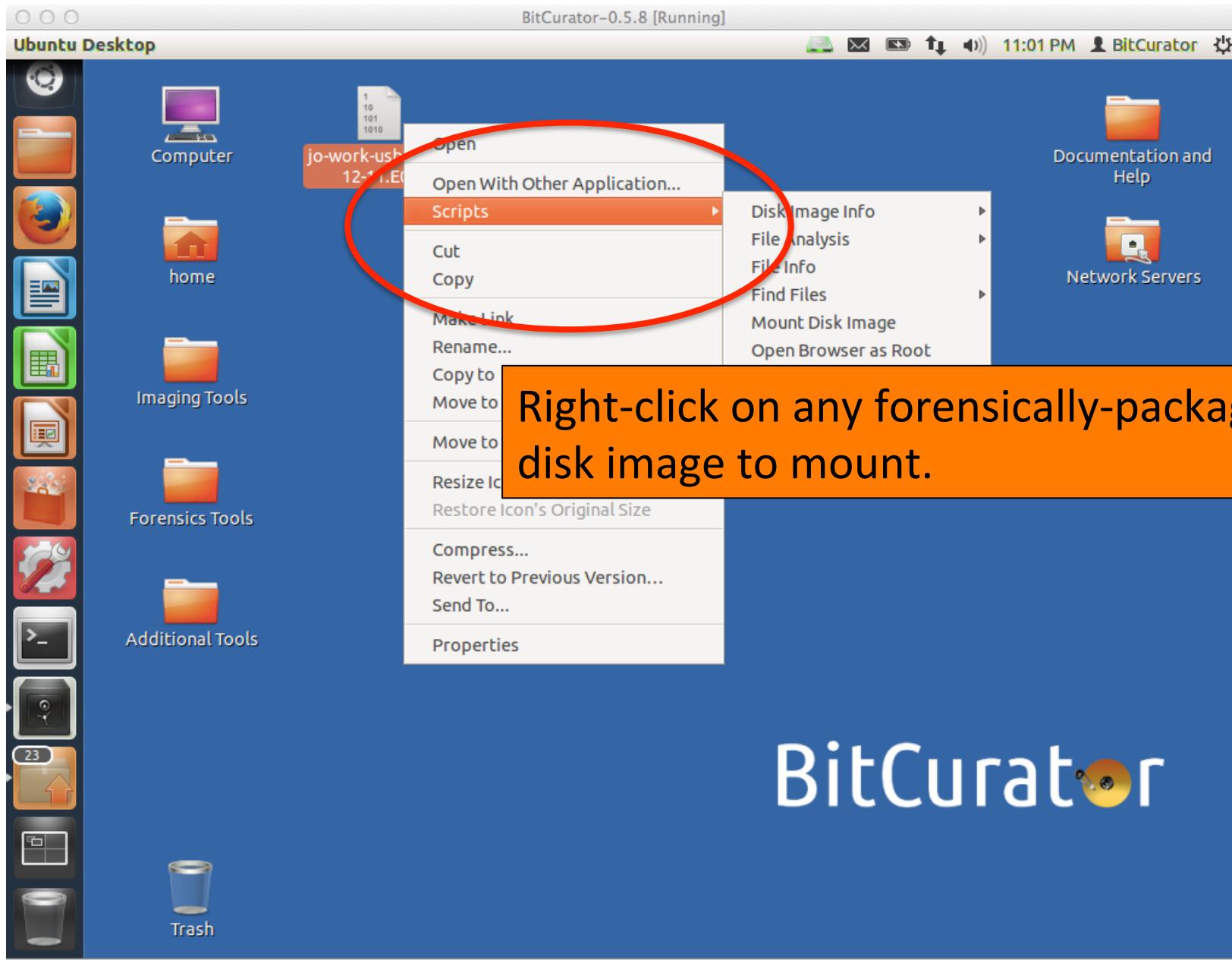


What's new in the past year

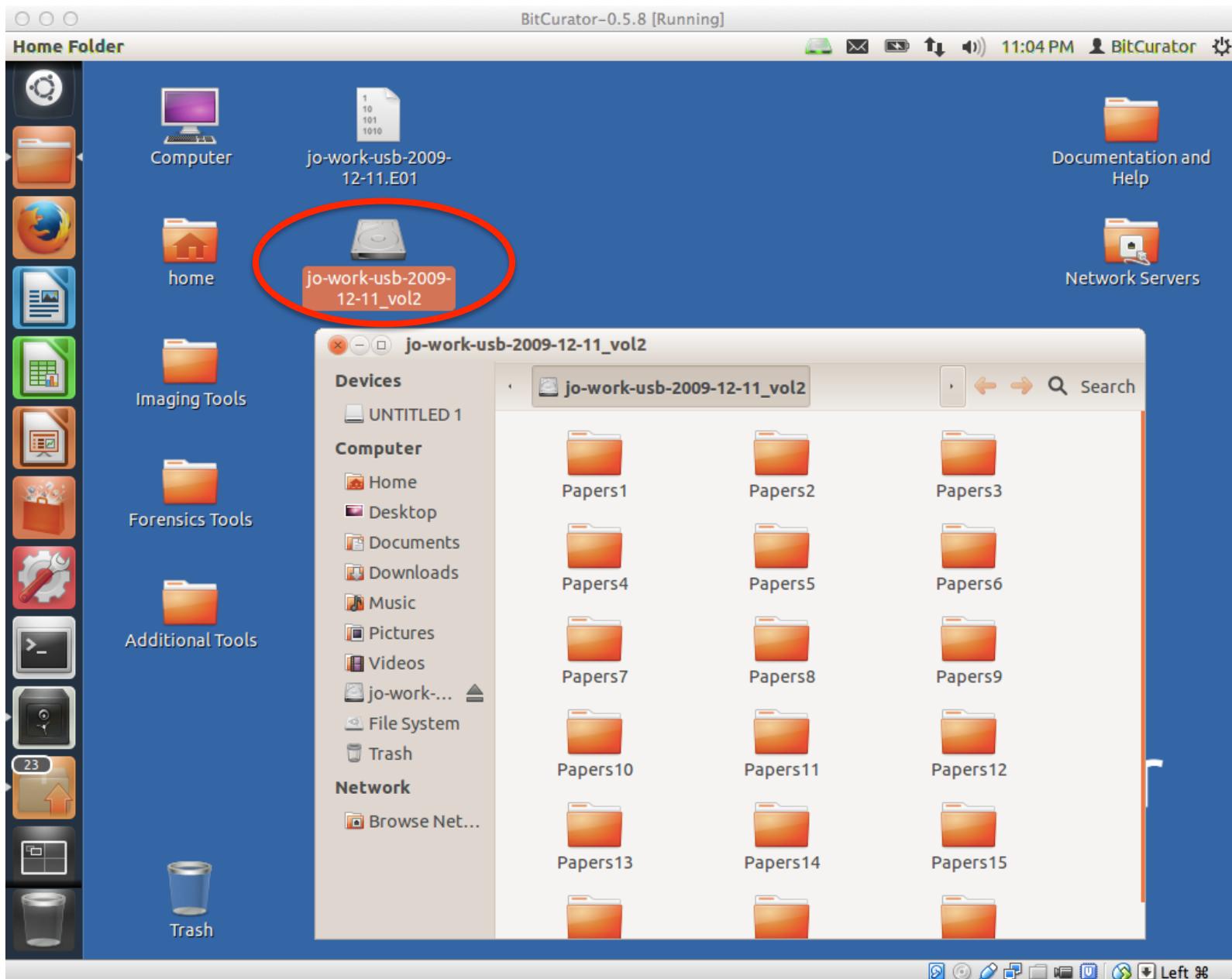
BitCurator has had 15 public releases (4 major releases) in the past year. Some highlights (as of 0.5.8):

- BitCurator-specific GUI to assist collections professionals running complex forensic tools.
- One-click mounting of forensically-packaged disk images
- Improved metadata export facilities (PDF, .xlsx, and visualizations)
- PREMIS metadata generation for forensic events and objects
- DFXML improvements and participation in the DFXML working group
- Duplicate file detection and removal
- Byte-level redaction of pattern-matched features (e.g. potentially sensitive information)

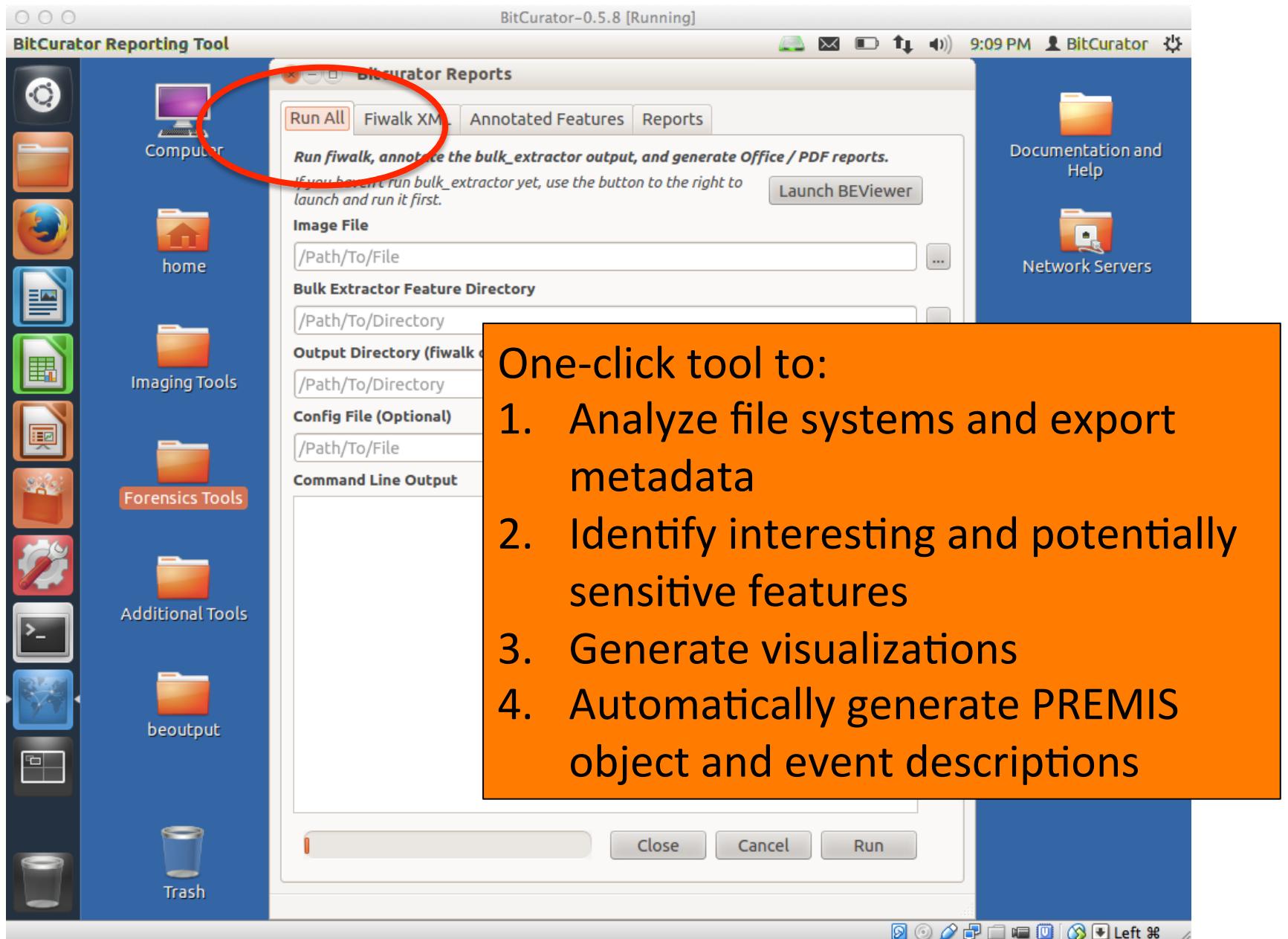
Interacting with disk images



Interacting with disk images



Forensic workflow



PREMIS metadata

Mozilla Firefox BitCurator-0.5.8 [Running]

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
<premis version="2.0" xsi="http://www.w3c.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
  <object>
    <objectIdentifier>
      <objectIdentifierType>1ba2e916-7718-11e3-9957-080027fa842e</objectIdentifierType>
      <objectIdentifierValue>/home/bcadmin/Desktop/jo-work-usb-2009-12-11.E01</objectIdentifierValue>
    </objectIdentifier>
  </object>
  <event>
    <eventIdentifier>
      <eventIdentifierType>1ba39af0-7718-11e3-9957-080027fa842e</eventIdentifierType>
      <eventIdentifierValue>E01/home/bcadmin/Desktop/jo-work-usb-2009-12-11.E01</eventIdentifierValue>
    </eventIdentifier>
    <eventType>Capture</eventType>
    <eventDateTime>Wed Jan 19 12</eventDateTime>
    <eventOutcomeInformation>
      <eventOutcome>E01</eventOutcome>
      <eventOutcomeDetail>Version: 20100226 , Image size: 512</eventOutcomeDetail>
    </eventOutcomeInformation>
  </event>
  <event>
    <eventIdentifier>
      <eventIdentifierType>1f83cc12</eventIdentifierType>
      <eventIdentifierValue>fiwalk -f -X /home/bcadmin/bcoutput/usb-2009-12-11.E01</eventIdentifierValue>
    </eventIdentifier>
    <eventTnme>File System Analysis</eventTnme>
  </event>
</premis>
```

Forensic analysis events with UUIDs for each (automatic) step in BitCurator tool (using custom BitCurator PREMIS generation code)

File system metadata...simplified

BitCurator-0.5.8 [Running]

fiwalk-output.xml.xlsx - LibreOffice Calc

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

Calibri 11 A A A % 0.00 0.00

C8 fΣ = pdf

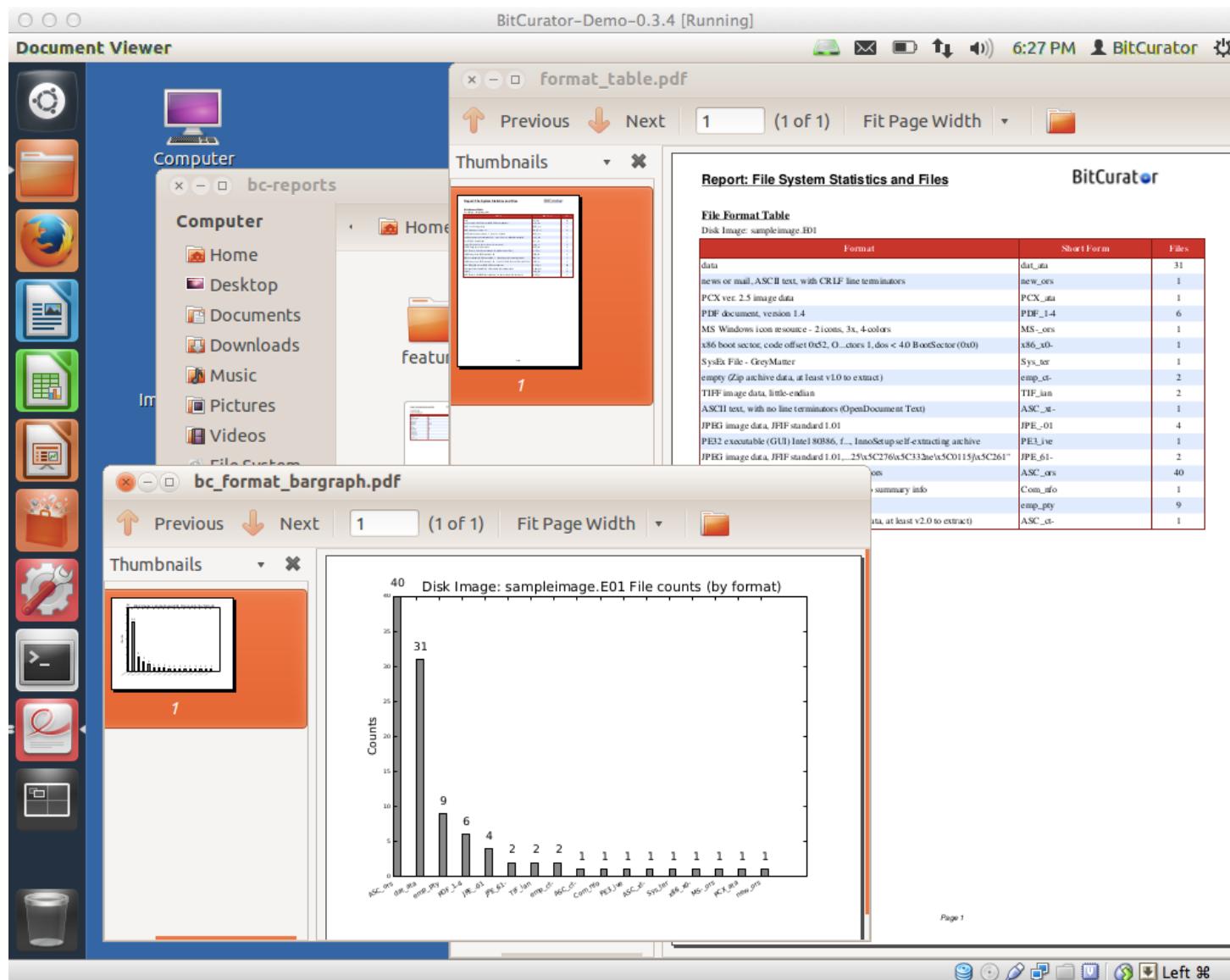
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Partition	Filename	Extension	Filesize	Access time	Create time	Modification
1	Papers3/62372.InsidiousObi.Allan+Jor	.pdf		91940	2009-12-10T05:00:00	2009-12-10T19:32:08	2009-11-1\5a6953fd9af383
2	Papers3/63572.ControllingIPv4.Amie+pd	.pdf		65192	2009-12-10T05:00:00	2009-12-10T19:32:09	2009-11-1\70bd635e9b10f
3	Papers3/66312.CacheCoherence.Nels+pd	.pdf					
4	Papers3/66976.baronet.Michael+Jone+pd	.pdf					
5	Papers3/71660.MeshNetworks.Steven+pd	.pdf					
6	Papers3/73178.SeparatedRobotics.M+pd	.pdf					
7	Papers3/73190.LANS.Clinton+Vallejo+pd	.pdf					
8	Papers3/73461.SMPs.Allan+Bearse.p+pd	.pdf					
9	Papers3/74074.EPOPT.Erik+Drown.p+pd	.pdf					
10	Papers3/74663.DHCP.Kurt+Tunney.p+pd	.pdf					
11	Papers3/74927.Database.Richard+D+pd	.pdf					
12	Papers3/75479.Redundancy.Erik+Tro+pd	.pdf					
13	Papers3/75825.Agents.Jessie+Calfee+pd	.pdf					
14	Papers3/77170.P2PArchetypes.Helen+pd	.pdf					
15	Papers3/79015.IPv7.Earnestine+Rus+pd	.pdf	104601	2009-12-10T05:00:00	2009-12-10T19:32:11	2009-11-1\1761dddcb8ac7	
16	Papers3/81007.Smalltalk.Mark+Whit+pd	.pdf	54085	2009-12-10T05:00:00	2009-12-10T19:32:11	2009-11-1\3b6a5c8da2532	
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20	Papers3/84160.Write-AheadLogging.+pd	.pdf	56376	2009-12-10T05:00:00	2009-12-10T19:32:12	2009-11-1\b755683b81c5a	
21	Papers3/8617.Sou.Sharron+Popejoy+pd	.pdf	57563	2009-12-10T05:00:00	2009-12-10T19:32:12	2009-11-1\b221223154836	
22	Papers3/87310.IPv4.Susan+Hill.pdf	.pdf	47110	2009-12-10T05:00:00	2009-12-10T19:32:12	2009-11-1\b63497a1839f0b	
23	Papers3/88094.RAID.William+Brown.+pd	.pdf	73765	2009-12-10T05:00:00	2009-12-10T19:32:12	2009-11-1\b10785254252b0	
24	Papers3/89922.ActiveNetworks.Mary+pd	.pdf	71156	2009-12-10T05:00:00	2009-12-10T19:32:13	2009-11-1\b78a8d47150cc	
25	Papers3/89922.ActiveNetworks.Nann+pd	.pdf	71193	2009-12-10T05:00:00	2009-12-10T19:32:13	2009-11-1\b56011776332dc	
26	Papers3/91750.LocalIDSplit.Carlene+pd	.pdf	51852	2009-12-10T05:00:00	2009-12-10T19:32:13	2009-11-1\b11b1cccd01a65b	
27							

File Object Information

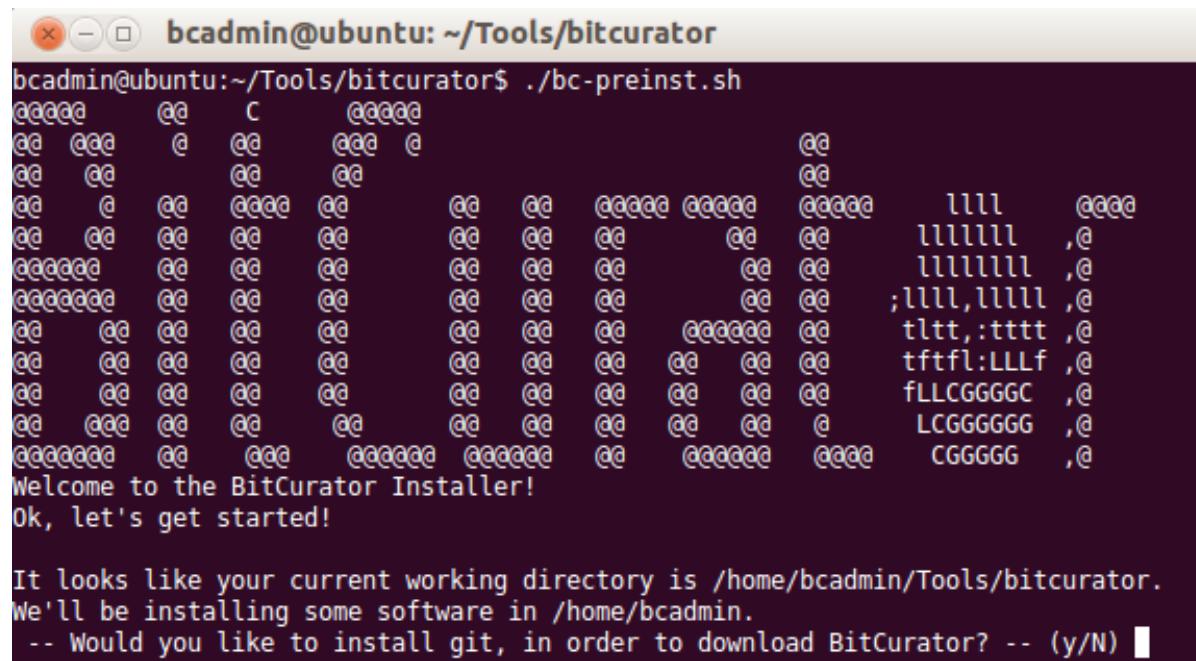
Sheet 1 / 1 PageStyle_File Object Information STD Sum=0 100% Left %

Per-partition file items with file type, MAC times, MD5 and SHA1 hashes automatically generated via BitCurator GUI

...and many other reports to analyze or store alongside a preservation object.



We're making it easier to upgrade BitCurator and use modules individually



A screenshot of a terminal window titled "bcadmin@ubuntu: ~/Tools/bitcurator". The window contains the following text:

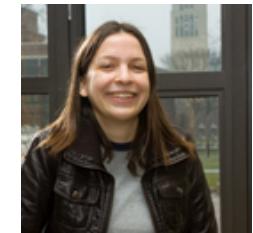
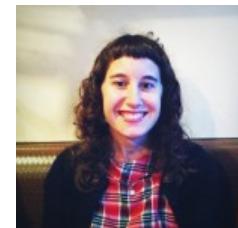
```
bcadmin@ubuntu:~/Tools/bitcurator$ ./bc-preinst.sh
@ooooo  @o  o   @ooooo
@o  ooo  o  oo  ooo  o
@o  oo  oo  oo  oo
@o  o  oo  oooo  oo  ooooo  llll  oooo
@o  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  llllllll ,o
@ooooooo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  llllllllll ,o
@ooooooo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  ;llll,llllll ,o
@o  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oooooo  oo  tltt,:tttt ,o
@o  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  tftfl:LLLf ,o
@o  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  fLLCGGGGGC ,o
@o  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  oo  o  LCGGGGGG ,o
@ooooooo  oo  ooo  oooooo  oooooo  oo  oooooo  ooooo  CGGGGG  ,o
Welcome to the BitCurator Installer!
Ok, let's get started!

It looks like your current working directory is /home/bcadmin/Tools/bitcurator.
We'll be installing some software in /home/bcadmin.
-- Would you like to install git, in order to download BitCurator? -- (y/N) █
```

Scripts with simple YES/NO questions to step you through pulling software from our Git repo, upgrading, and installing dependencies

The BitCurator Team

- Christopher (Cal) Lee – PI
- Matt Kirschenbaum - Co-PI
- Kam Woods - Technical Lead
- Porter Olsen - Community Lead
- Alex Chassanoff - Project Manager
- Sunitha Misra - GA (UNC)
- Amanda Visconti - GA (MITH)



Time to go use it!

Software and docs:

<http://wiki.bitcurator.net/>

News and blog:

<http://www.bitcurator.net/>

Source code:

[https://www.github.com/
kamwoods/bitcurator](https://www.github.com/kamwoods/bitcurator)



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