

Magnet User Summit – April 12th 2022 Nashville, TN

How do you know it works as intended?

Kathryn Hedley



Why are you talking to me?

- Why examiners shouldn't rely on tools to 'just work'
 - True of both hardware and software
- Processes to validate tools
 - Example for file carving tools
- When to validate tools
- Resources to help



But why?!

- Tools can get things wrong:
 - Existing artifact not fully understood / parsed
 - New artifact not understood
 - Artifact format changes so no longer parsed
 - Artifact moves location so no longer found
- Can result in:
 - Omission of data
 - Incorrect output
 - Invalid output





So... when?!

- Upon receipt, before first use
- After every major software/firmware update
 - Or, selected updates
 - Only use versions that have been validated on casework
- For hardware, also periodically
 - Once a year is a good guide
 - Remember: all hardware will fail eventually



How?!

- Draw up known test data set(s)
- Document 'correct' expected result based on each data set
- Tool validation process:
 - Document the test data set(s) used
 - Document the tool and version you are validating
 - Use the test data set(s) with the tool and document all features tested
 - Document the actual results output from the tool for each data set
 - Document the comparison between actual and expected results
 - Document any limitations of the test



Example – validating file carving tools

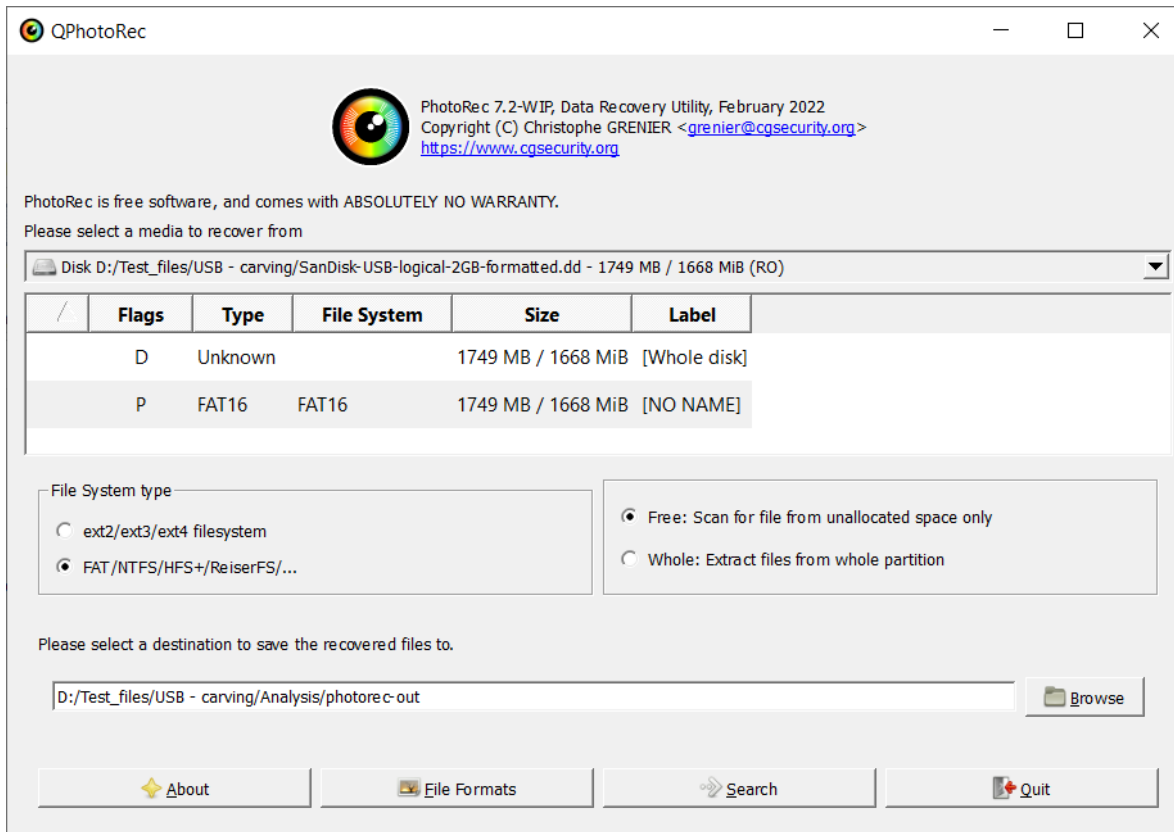
File Type	Filename	Origin	Size (KB)	MDS	SHA1
7z	AVI-7z	Created from AVI folder containing files above	20,393	w75d666b86d0b6327db86bbee4f9	846d1b6d0fcd9701d35889f0d104376c6b1b
7z	BMP-7z	Created from BMP folder containing files above	35,324	80335d49313b6a1c397e0d273b62758a	e169311ad05c1c51e0d653736e6d9d287d0c
7z	DOC-7z	Created from DOC-7z folder containing files above	6,933	7ba6211478853048369783d0486b1d	wd5139a1559a71690a8309840b48X222128799
7z	GIF-7z	Created from GIF folder containing files above	10,674	43796d19327d144383b6dc67b6d0554e	w70ca51876183a65366cd3756d82876a3a54
7z	JPEG-7z	Created from JPEG folder containing files above	10,790	49f6d1289a545a0e7b1382165173b6f08	4ac6a5096356b6851288369253a5e58f410a2e
AVI	1280.avi	https://www.appleworld.com/avi-video-clips-free-download/	11,006	474602w1761c3eeabedf2197364f1b	8351a1b0f081e5419007740eddfcd00ca066e
AVI	Bubble Turning Into Ico.avi	https://www.appleworld.com/avi-video-clips-free-download/	8,850	3e646a52a25b14b04703b79d6271630	85bdcd4cccd4186b1ace5b36a0a0832cd
AVI	file_example_AVI_1920_2_3MG.avi	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-video-files/sample-avi-files-download/	2,227	c52759d040257386b1465339d4806c2	573400d5d49ed0e0c92723470618417d8b31f
AVI	file_example_AVI_480_750kb.avi	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-video-files/sample-avi-files-download/	726	9d22d7f644127263cad90a964f9d	e188e66a68f7729b6d8c02913427b6b61677f
AVI	sample-avi-file.avi	https://www.learningportal.net/sample-avi-video-file-download/	8,130	b0359ab72ca4d0a629926278b2c2d194e	246e6c4053407e15194510389c3000da779d3
BMP	GRN.BMP	https://www.flaticon.com/formp/bmp/sample/indoe.htm	85	64986d5d8b3213b0c97d1789b6e5d7	b36747w0d95w0f0d7d9999b0d5e2w79446d6b2
BMP	MARBLE.BMP	https://www.flaticon.com/formp/bmp/sample/indoe.htm			2747a4a450184
BMP	RAY.BMP	https://www.flaticon.com/formp/bmp/sample/indoe.htm			4640405878e4e356
BMP	sample_5184x3456.bmp	https://file-examples.com/formats/bmp			45a441d7719418a
BMP	Small Sample BMP Image File Download.bmp	https://www.learningportal.net/sample-bmp-file-for-testing			683a652cd5d4604
BMP	Yellow_star.bmp	Created by khedley			eccd218e77f06b
DOC	file-example_1MB.doc	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-documents-download/			8f0cd4a4cc02c
DOC	SampleDOCfile_200kb.doc	https://sample-videos.com/download-sample-doc-file.php			7927550c22da6e
DOC	SampleDOCfile_500kb.doc	https://sample-videos.com/download-sample-doc-file.php			8a5659d6d02ca3
DOC	USB connection artifacts.doc	Created by khedley			9a14e612d6994e
DOCK	15-MB-doc-file-download.docx	https://www.learningportal.net/sample-docx-file-for-testing			23a2ef253d8f9c
DOCK	file-example_500kb.docx	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-documents-download/			4b3c20316d6d11a
DOCK	sample-docx-file-for-testing.docx	https://www.learningportal.net/sample-docx-file-for-testing			97eaf0c24c37f8d
DOCK	Using WSL.docx	Created by khedley			4351391190e6d6f
GIF	giphy (1).gif	https://giphy.com/gifs/hatutah-wasame-streep-yippen-Gd8g6			4321095121w69
GIF	giphy (2).gif	https://giphy.com/gifs/kydye-beta-howtomob-OTYL1FvCo0g			4a58888d0416b95
GIF	giphy.gif	https://giphy.com/gifs/Internet-plaza-computer-ZH5o2icOABi			1565d7a6c96c18
GIF	Howdoihi.computeriidecidedntoiyemiyher	https://funnyjunk.com/channel/pornytime/Howdoihi.computer			1aeb0292b1b4f
GIF	undefined - imgur.gif	https://imgur.com/gallery/NVof32i			4100943d8485a
JPEG	file_example_JPG_500kb.jpg	https://file-examples.com.github.io/uploads/2017/10/file_example			869352cd7cd1845
JPEG	IMG_2375.JPG	Created by khedley			8f0cd4a4cc02c
JPEG	IMG_3385_cropped.jpg	Created by khedley			8f0cd4a4cc02c
JPEG	IMG_3973.JPG	Created by khedley			8f0cd4a4cc02c
JPEG	IMG_3977.JPG	Created by khedley			8f0cd4a4cc02c
JPEG	Intoxphoto1304263738-170667a.jpg	https://unsplash.com/photos/jag			52b700212ee6d4b
JPEG	photo-1533450718292-2945635350a9.jpg	https://unsplash.com/photos/jag			70444ef9a7c22b
MOV	720.mov	https://www.appleworld.com/sample-mov-file-download/			26b53ed397d97e0
MOV	Cloud Formation Video.mov	https://www.appleworld.com/sample-mov-file-download/			2000d5d88a3951
MOV	file_example_MOV_480_700kb.mov	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-video-files/sample			9f097b949f9d42
MOV	sample_960x400_cowen_audio.mov	https://file-examples.com/formats/mov			d17e425a6d2954
MOV	sample-mov-file.mov	https://www.learningportal.net/mp4-sample-video-files-download/			fc3942a9e71e06
MP3	file_example_MP3_700kb.mp3	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-audio-files/sample			306800715a1cd03
MP3	Kalimba.mp3	https://www.learningportal.net/sample-audio-file/			86b05d751e5a6b4e
MP3	sample3.mp3	https://file-examples.com/formats/mp3			2948d4b6b6d5d
MP3	sample4.mp3	https://file-examples.com/formats/mp3			76166b5d16549a
MP3	Symphony No.6 (1st movement).mp3	https://file-examples.com/formats/mp3			775ce775e518dec
MP4	file_example_MP4_1920_18MG.mp4	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-video-files/sample			bd41816d2291730
MP4	giphy360p (1).mp4	https://giphy.com/explore/download			a76b4b45d851c
MP4	giphy360p.mp4	https://giphy.com/explore/download			02a2dbdb765dcd2
MP4	sample_1280x720_surfing_with_audio.mp4	https://file-examples.com/formats/mp4			88a54d6ddcd1e1
MP4	sample_960x540.mp4	https://file-examples.com/formats/mp4			4a6d757d7f8dc
MP4	sample-mp4-file.mp4	https://www.learningportal.net/mp4-sample-video-files-download/			4c17309a6941
PDF	file-example_PDF_1MB.pdf	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-documents-download/			8f0cd4a4cc02c
PDF	file-example_150kb.pdf	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-documents-download/			8f0cd4a4cc02c
PDF	pdf.pdf	https://www.pdf995.com/samples/pdf.pdf			w784d7c3a2716d8
PDF	PhoneData_Location_Cheatsheet_khedley	Created by khedley			w5577a6b00b0d3
PDF	PhoneData_Footer_khedley.pdf	Created by khedley			4a50c9a9fbd3b
PDF	sample.pdf	https://www.kheda.edu/images/default/sample.pdf			9492a5f56672
PNG	2c431b_1640260a2774ed6b87d101c321ec17	https://www.freepng.com/dragon-png-images			523a3b31e6d4a3
PNG	2c431b_1640260a2774ed6b87d101c321ec17	https://www.freepng.com/dragon-png-images			523a3b31e6d4a3
PNG	pngwing.com (1).png	https://www.pngwing.com/en/free-png-cdn			53aef35a6e1e23
PNG	pngwing.com.png	https://www.pngwing.com/en/free-png-cdn			53aef35a6e1e23
PNG	transparent-maple-leaf-5f8ec1dd11e41575661	https://www.subpng.com/png-draw/			9f097b949f9d42
PNG	transparent-cow-icorn-adum-icorn-40b5ed5257	https://www.subpng.com/png-draw/			9f097b949f9d42
PPT	file_example_PPT_1MB.ppt	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-documents-download/			8f0cd4a4cc02c
PPT	file_example_PPT_250kb.ppt	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-documents-download/			8f0cd4a4cc02c
PPT	PhoneData_Forensic.ppt	Created by khedley			4a50c9a9fbd3b
PPTX	160930-eritidai-intelligence-template-16d.ppt	https://www.free-power-point-templates.com/free-machina			7690cd1b6b13c2a
PPTX	pot1.pptx	https://www.appleworld.com/sample-ppts-file/			9f097b949f9d42
PPTX	pot2.pptx	https://www.appleworld.com/sample-ppts-file/			9f097b949f9d42
TIFF	COIT1_1.TIF	https://www.flaticon.com/formp/tif/sample/			810b6e44a23568
TIFF	file_example TIFF_10MB.tif	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-images-download/			20561c0f8c2b94
TIFF	FLAG_T24.TIF	https://www.flaticon.com/formp/tif/sample/			8f0cd4a4cc02c
TIFF	Sample-TIFF-file-download-for-testing.tif	https://www.learningportal.net/sample-tif-file-for-testing			8f0cd4a4cc02c
TIFF	TIF-Image-File-Download.tif	https://www.learningportal.net/sample-tif-file-for-testing			8f0cd4a4cc02c
WAV	BabyElephantWalk50.wav	https://www2.cs.cu.edu/~t301/Sound/ilex/			1f05e400d0e9745
WAV	bird_caw2.wav	https://www.sourc.com/animals/animals.htm			7a4ed457356b3
WAV	crickets.wav	https://www.sourc.com/animals/animals.htm			324d2b11764ed6d
WAV	Fanfare60.wav	https://www2.cs.cu.edu/~t301/Sound/ilex/			64959a419e875
WAV	file_example_WAV_5MG.wav	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-audio-files/sample			8f0cd4a4cc02c
WAV	taunt.wav	https://www2.cs.cu.edu/~t301/Sound/ilex/			4b9912380cd5758
WMV	1280.wmv	https://www.appleworld.com/sample-wmv-video-file-free-download/			9f0cd4a4cc02c
WMV	file_example_WMV_480_1_3MB.wmv	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-video-files/sample			9f0cd4a4cc02c
WMV	sample_5840x2160.wmv	https://file-examples.com/formats/wmv			w40403b4392a2b
WMV	sample-wmv-file.wmv	https://www.learningportal.net/sample-wmv-video-file-download/			1585c2064e80a3
WMV	Video2.WMV	https://www.lehrman.edu/faculty/hoffmann/12/teach/Video/Video_examples.html			66d457a6b3b6e3c9f84177a757a7b1a1a11c
XLS	file_example_XLS_10.xls	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-documents-download/sample-xls-download/			40cd89c17da39957729345f8b6b17802d539
XLS	file_example_XLS_5000.xls	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-documents-download/sample-xls-download/			3e044a8eb3774441580b15d30706d3176073
XLS	USB_artifacts.xls	Created by khedley			39a4a8f0a78957d55951cd3c0a004ed6b6116
XLSX	file_example_XLSX_1000.xlsx	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-documents-download/sample-xls-download/			0d0c77a151a9931913d88410a3931a88fcd93d
XLSX	file_example_XLSX_50.xlsx	https://file-examples.com/indoe.php/sample-documents-download/sample-xls-download/			85256f2a6d7126c5c529a42c2a754
XLSX	sample.xlsx	https://file-examples.com/formats/xlsx			4d0cd2a2w3a7478d5d0a6e5d595697d3520
XLSX	DOCK-XLSX-PPF.Xls	Created from DOCK-XLSX-PPF folder containing files above	45,381	w7ab6b3c737d9a64c5e6d0a6e77	3c5d5d3d5d5d7342d6a4c070d83469b3c51ca
ZIP	MOV.zip	Created from MOV folder containing files above	47,973	12941b6a5b6d9394881a20401c4	445075b5b6b21730b0a6cd3a76f0a1ed0a9
ZIP	MP3.zip	Created from MP3 folder containing files above	25,633	1790ab5a5e5db0800808291a14d6	7a144b5c2321c4d366b7a1e121c3b94d3128
ZIP	PDF.zip	Created from PDF folder containing files above	2,646	d91d702d862788778a2ad779f237ad	a1a4a40d9161d0dc96546823968955d464
ZIP	PNG.zip	Created from PNG folder containing files above	8,002	67a721e0a04d4c05f0a621a9a24b6	0a342d01ec70cd0a2025205b0a415f9499

Row Labels	Count of Filename
7z	5
AVI	5
BMP	6
DOC	4
DOCX	4
GIF	5
JPEG	7
MOV	5
MP3	5
MP4	6
PDF	6
PNG	6
PPT	3
PPTX	3
TIFF	5
WAV	6
WMV	5
XLS	3
XLSX	3
ZIP	5
Grand Total	97



Khyrenz Ltd

PhotoRec 7.2



- Add a raw disk image...
- Select destination folder
- Search

https://www.cgsecurity.org/wiki/TestDisk_Download



Executive Summary

PhotoRec version 7.2 was run in its default configuration against the test image [Khyrenz-FileCarvingImage-USB-logical-2GB-formatted.dd](#)^[1].

The below table is a summary of the test files that PhotoRec carved from this image.

File Type	Number of Test Files	Exact match	Usable match	Not found	False positive	Invalid file
7z	5	5				
AVI	5	5				
BMP	6	5	1			
DOC	4	4				
DOCX	4	4				
GIF	5	5				
JPEG	7	2		5		
MOV	5	5				
MP3	5	4		1		1
MP4	6	6				
PDF	6	6				
PNG	6	6				
PPT	3	3				
PPTX	3	3				
TIFF	5		5			
WAV	6	6				
WMV	5	2		3		
XLS	3	3				
XLSX	3	3				
ZIP	5	5				
Total	97	82	6	9	0	1
Percentage		84.54%	6.19%	9.28%		

As this table shows, 84.54% of the test files were recovered exactly; the SHA1 file hashes were a match to the original files. In total, 90.73% of the original files were recovered in a usable state and could be successfully viewed, with the remaining 9.28% of the original files not carved.

Eight of the original test files were not found within the image by PhotoRec. These were all JPEG or WMV file formats.

- Full validation report at:

<https://www.khyrenz.com/resources/>

Categories:

1. **Exact match:** SHA1 match to an original test file
2. **Usable match:** Carved file can be successfully opened and viewed, and appears similar to an original test file
3. **Not found:** No output resembling original file
4. **False positive:** Carved file is valid and can be opened/viewed, but is not similar to an original file
5. **Invalid file:** Carved file cannot be opened or viewed



Example –
comparing file
carving tools



MAGNET AXIOM™



X-Ways



```
foremost version 1.5.7 by Jesse Kornblum, Kris Kendall, and Nick Mikus.  
$ foremost [-v|-V|-h|-T|-Q|-q|-a|-w|-d] [-t <type>] [-s <blocks>] [-k <size>]  
  [-b <size>] [-c <file>] [-o <dir>] [-i <file>]
```



AXIOM 5.10.0.30634

- PROCESSING DETAILS (enable):
 - Calculate hash values
 - Find more artifacts
- ARTIFACT DETAILS (enable):
 - CUSTOM ARTIFACTS: Carved Archives
 - DOCUMENTS: Excel, Microsoft Office, PDF, PowerPoint, Word
 - MEDIA (all)
- Ignored carved embedded JPEG & PNG files

X-Ways Forensic 20.4

- F10 → File header signature search & Compute hash (MD5 and SHA1) → OK → <select all> → OK

Foremost 1.5.7

- `foremost -i SanDisk-USB-logical-2GB-formatted.001 -o foremost-out`
- `md5deep foremost-out/*/* > foremost_md5.txt`



Supported File Types By Default

BUILTIN FORMATS

Recover files from a disk image based on file types specified by the user using the -t switch.

jpg Support for the JFIF and Exif formats including implementations used in modern digital cameras.

gif

png

bmp Support for windows bmp format.

avi

exe Support for Windows PE binaries, will extract DLL and EXE files along with their compile times.

mpg Support for most MPEG files (must begin with 0x000001BA)

wav

riff This will extract AVI and RIFF since they use the same file format (RIFF). note faster than running each separately.

wmv Note may also extract wma files as they have similar format.

mov

pdf

ole This will grab any file using the OLE file structure. This includes PowerPoint, Word, Excel, Access, and StarWriter

doc Note it is more efficient to run OLE as you get more bang for your buck. If you wish to ignore all other ole files then use this.

zip Note is will extract .jar files as well because they use a similar format. Open Office docs are just zip'd XML files so they are extracted as well. These include SXW, SXC, SXI, and SX? for undetermined OpenOffice files. Office 2007 files are also XML based (PPTX,DOCX,XLSX)

rar

htm

cpp C source code detection, note this is primitive and may generate documents other than C code.

mp4 Support for MP4 files.

all Run all pre-defined extraction methods. [Default if no -t is specified]

MAGNET AXIOM™

Name	Description	Extensions
This field is required.	This field is optional.	This field is optional.
WordPerfect Files	WordPerfect Files	WP;WPD;WPG;WPP;WP5;WP6;WPF
Google WebP Images	WebP files - Header WEBPVP8	webp
Carved Audio	Carving for mp3 files with ID3 v2 header	
Carved Audio	Carving for mp3 files with ID3 v3 header	
Carved Audio	Carving for mp3 files with ID3 v4 header	
Carved Audio	Carving for WAV files - HEADER WAVEfmt	
Carved Audio	Carving for WAV files - HEADER WAVEJUNK	
	Zip header 1. Contents of Carved Archive files are not opened and searched.	
Carved Archives	Zip header 2. Contents of Carved Archive files are not opened and searched.	
Carved Archives	7zip. Contents of Carved Archive files are not opened and searched.	
Carved Archives	rar and rar5. Contents of Carved Archive files are not opened and searched.	
Carved Archives		

- Some file types not carved by default
- Others can be added



foremost version 1.5.7

Tool Comparison Against 'Known' Data

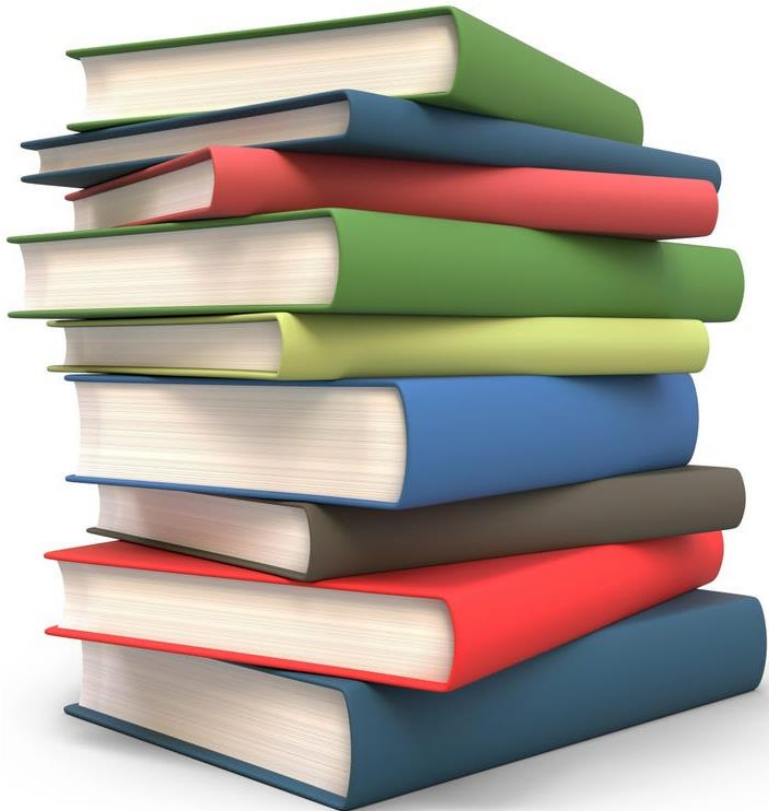
Tool	Version	Hash match	Usable	Not Found	False Positive	Invalid	Found	Not Found
AXIOM	5.10.0.30634	55	12	30	0	22	69.07%	30.93%
Foremost	1.5.7	35	22	40	79	995	58.76%	41.24%
PhotoRec	7.2	82	6	9	0	1	90.72%	9.28%
X-Ways Forensic	20.4	81	16	0	1	2	100.00%	0.00%

***Caveat: This is ONE test against ONE dataset & ONE tool version**



Other Resources

- NIST Computer Forensics Tool Testing (CFTT) program
 - <https://www.nist.gov/itl/ssd/software-quality-group/computer-forensics-tool-testing-program-cftt>
- SWGDE Guidelines for Validation Testing
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vakqb14EJzq3eNkwv5ui40WYGP7IGCsD/view>
- Sample carving test images (Brian Carrier):
 - <http://dftt.sourceforge.net/>





Website: khyrenz.com

LinkedIn: <https://uk.linkedin.com/in/kathryn-hedley-15638435>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/4enzikat0r>

