Digital evidence discovery of networked multimedia smart devices based on social networking activities

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Abstract

Unquestionably, networked multimedia smart devices are commonly adopted in

contemporary ubiquitous wireless computing era with unprecedented evolving pace in terms

of mobility, portability, and pervasiveness. Regrettably, those technology-oriented gadgets

are phenomenally exploited by cyber criminals or get involved in computerrelated incidents

unknowingly. Substantively, the detection, prevention, and the related digital forensics of the

above scenarios are becoming tremendously urgent both in public and private sectors.

Therefore, in this research, we investigate the scenario when state-of-the-art wireless

communication technologies are integrated with the networked smart devices where digital

evidences may exist and they could be disclosed when appropriate standard operating

procedures are suitably applied. Accordingly, in this paper, a PDA with the built-in GPS

navigation functionality via the ubiquitous Wi-Fi connection to a popular social networking

platform (facebook) is cross examined concerning the related digital evidence collecting and

discovering in terms of revealing previous facebook user accounts on the mobile device

without shutting off the power. The research provides a generic framework

for the digital

forensics specialists to contemplate when the networked smart devices are involved in the

related criminal investigation cases especially when omnipresent social networking platforms

are becoming the new avenue for the escalating, stringent, and heinous cybercrimes.

Keyword: Digital forensics. Mobile social network. Location-based social networking. Networked smart devices. Volatile memory acquisition