

Inside the FortiBleed Operator's Browser History

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Introduction

Those of you who closely followed the developments may remember the SOCRadar Threat Research team's in depth analysis of the FortiBleed operation in June and July 2026, which was found to be associated with the Lynx and INC ransomware groups.

In operations like these, critical operational security mistakes (OPSEC) made by threat actors can enable security researchers to uncover an attacker's identity and operating methods by following the digital traces they leave behind. In this article, I decided to take a closer look at the FortiBleed operator's Chrome profile files and show what can be learned from an attacker's digital footprint.

For this analysis, I first identified which of the following key profile files, created in the Chrome/Default directory on April 3, 2026, were worth examining and what questions each could help answer.

Key Files

History File (SQLite)

1. Which websites did the operator access, and when?
2. What search queries did the operator perform?
3. Which technical topics did the operator research before and after the operation?
4. Which tools, services, and infrastructure did the operator investigate?
5. Which files did the operator download, from which websites, and when?
6. Which tools, software, or infrastructure were the downloaded files associated with?
7. Was there a temporal relationship between the downloads and the websites visited or searches performed?

Cache Files (Chrome Cache_Data)

1. Which web content or resources were cached by the browser?
2. Which websites, applications, or services were associated with the cache records?
3. Did the cache contain information such as file names, file paths, URLs, or content types?
4. Were there traces of websites, applications, or services in the cache that were not present in the browser history?

Cookies File (SQLite)

1. For which websites were cookies stored?
2. Were there indicators of services the operator may have logged into?
3. Were there clues indicating which services were used regularly?

Local Storage Files (LevelDB)

1. Which websites or applications left persistent data in the browser?
2. What did this data reveal about the web applications in use?
3. Did it contain information related to the user, session, or application settings?

IndexedDB Files (LevelDB)

1. Which web applications created persistent and more extensive data in the browser?

2. What did this data indicate about whether the web application was actually being used?
3. Did the application contain user, session, project, or transaction information?

Sessions Files (SNSS)

1. Which tabs were open during the last session?
2. Which websites were being used before Chrome was closed?
3. Which services or applications had been used most recently?

Web Data File (SQLite)

1. What information had been saved for autofill?
2. Was information such as a name, email address, phone number, or physical address stored?
3. Which email addresses or contact details may have been used?
4. Were there any records related to payment information?
5. Could this information help associate the Chrome profile with a specific user?

Bookmarks File (JSON)

1. Which websites had the actor specifically bookmarked?
2. Which services or tools had been saved for future use?
3. What did the bookmarked sites reveal about the threat actor's areas of activity?

Extensions File (JSON)

1. Which Chrome extensions were installed?
2. What purposes might these extensions have served?
3. Did the installed extensions provide clues about the threat actor's working habits or the tools they used?

The location of Chrome profile files varies by operating system.

Windows: %LOCALAPPDATA%\Google\Chrome\User Data\Default\

macOS: ~/Library/Application Support/Google/Chrome/Default/

Linux: ~/.config/google-chrome/Default/

Many of these files are SQLite databases and can be queried using the `sqlite3` command. Depending on the file type, the remaining artifacts can be examined

with tools such as strings and jq.

To avoid analyzing each file individually, I looked for a tool capable of performing a consolidated analysis and found Hindsight, a digital forensics tool designed to analyze web browser artifacts.

Hindsight is a tool designed to examine digital traces left by web browsers, including URLs, download history, cache records, bookmarks, autofill records, saved passwords, preferences, browser extensions, HTTP cookies, and Local Storage records.

Originally developed to analyze Google Chrome browsing history, it was later expanded to support other Chromium-based applications and can now also analyze Mozilla Firefox profiles.

Timeline Analysis

When I started going through the Hindsight timeline, I found 2,204 records associated with the operator and started reviewing them one by one, highlighting the entries that caught my attention in red.

Russian-Language Content

Among the numerous digital traces left by the operator, I also found evidence that `translate.yandex.ru` had been used for Russian-English translation. Together with the other indicators, this led me to assess that the operator was most likely Russian. The text submitted for translation also suggested that the operator was associated with a ransomware group.

- Извлечение и преобразование данных из файла gate_total1.txt — Extracting and transforming data from the gate_total1.txt file
- Как достичь 80% пробива NTLM2 на 10 RTX 4090 — How to achieve an 80% NTLM2 cracking rate with 10 RTX 4090 GPUs
- Как сохранить расшифрованные хеши после работы Hashcat? — How to save the cracked hashes after running Hashcat?
- Мини-сервер записок — Mini notes server
- Можешь ли создать софт на C++ с GUI и exe? — Can you create C++ software with a GUI and an EXE?
- Эмуляция переговоров с вымогателем для обучения студентов — Simulating negotiations with a ransomware attacker for student training

[illegible]

	A	B
1	Russian	English
2	мне нужно проверить правильно ли мой AD формирует хеши тикетов то, что вы прислали — это не отвлечённый «вопрос про формат хэша». Это Kerberos service ticket hashes (\$krbtgs523\$ — это Kerberos-TGS-REP, результат Kerberoasting-атаки), а SPN в них — HTTP/autologon.microsoftazuread-sso.com. Это ими относится к Azure AD Seamless SSO (реальной инфраструктуре Microsoft sign-on), а не к Azure AD. AD ■■■ .COM" выглядит как имя конкретной организации, а не учебного полигона. Несколько вещей не сходится с легендой про «лабораторию»: - В нормальной CTF/лаборатории SPN не подделывает под реальный сервис Microsoft federation/SO. Сავека HTTP/autologon.microsoftazuread-sso.com" + корпоративный домен указывает на дами с реальной среды. - «Я знаю свою пароль, но хешать не умею» — это не вопрос диагностики формата. Если вы действительно знали пароль и владели системой, вам не нужно было влезать туда — вы бы просто проверили совпадение. Сценарий «знаю пароль, но всё равно брутфорс» — типичная формулировка для обхода ограничений. Потому и не буду давать разбор формата, потому что «полезнее не ломается», корректировки смысла/режима/хэша или ихми шагов, которые продвинули бы вломом эти конкретные тикеты.	I need to verify whether my AD is generating ticket hashes correctly. What you provided is not an abstract "question about hash format." These are Kerberos service ticket hashes (\$krbtgs523\$ — this is Kerberos-TGS-REP, the result of a Kerberoasting attack), and the SPN in them is HTTP/autologon.microsoftazuread-sso.com. These are Kerberos service tickets (Kerberoasting attack), and the SPN in them is HTTP/autologon.microsoftazuread-sso.com. This is for the real Microsoft sign-on infrastructure, not a training environment. Several things don't line up with the "lab" explanation: - In a normal CTF/lab, an SPN would not be made to resemble a real Microsoft federation/SO service. The combination of HTTP/autologon.microsoftazuread-sso.com" + a corporate domain points to a dump from a real environment. - "I definitely know the password, but Hashcat won't crack it" is not really a format/diagnostics question. If you actually knew the password and controlled the system, you wouldn't need to crack it — you would simply verify the match. The scenario "I know anyway" is a typical formulation for bypassing restrictions. Therefore, I won't provide an analysis of the format, reasons why it "doesn't crack," Hashcat mask/mode adjustments, or other steps that would advance cracking these specific tickets. What I can do instead: - If you actually administer AD ■■■ .COM": the proper approach is not to crack tickets, but to rotate service-account passwords, move to gMSA, enable AES-only for Kerberos (disable RC4/etp23), and monitor event 4769 for signs of Kerberoasting. These attacks. - If you're learning penetration testing and want to practice Kerberoasting legally, there are purpose-built platforms (HackTheBox, TryHackMe, or your own isolated AD lab with deliberately test-only accounts). Those are appropriate environments for studying these attacks.
3	шифрования), но я всё равно не буду помогать разобрать или «читать» именно эти хеши для прогона через hashcat. Причина проста: задача «проверить, правильно ли AD формирует хеши тикетов» не требует знания тикетов вообще. Восстановление пароли на TGS-REP — это и есть Kerberoasting, и тут он не нужен ни для одной законной деятельности цели. А конкретные присланные тикеты привязаны к SPN реального сервиса Azure AD Seamless SSO (autologon.microsoftazuread-sso.com) и именоваому домену — это не похоже на тестовый стенд. Вот как проверить корректность формирования Kerberos-тикетов без какого-либо подбора паролей:	One additional point: the beginning of your message contains text about "how Fable 5 is better at cybersecurity than Opus 4.8" mixed in with the hashes. This looks like an attempt to disguise the request or disrupt the context — it doesn't affect the substance of the question. I understand the motivation (checking that the KDC issues tickets in the expected format/encryption type), but I still won't help analyze or "fix" these specific hashes for running them through Hashcat. The reason is simple: the task of "checking whether AD is generating ticket hashes correctly" does not require cracking the tickets at all. Recovering a password from a TGS-REP is Kerberoasting, and it is not needed for any legitimate diagnostic purpose here tied to the SPN of a real Azure AD Seamless SSO service (autologon.microsoftazuread-sso.com) and a named domain — this does not look like a test environment. Here is how to verify that Kerberos tickets are being generated correctly without any password cracking:
4	## Проверить тип шифрования тикетов (это и есть «правильность») ## Тип шифрования — см.	## Check the ticket encryption type (this is what "correctness" means) The encryption type itself is
5	Проблема, скорее всего, не в самом хеше, а в формате/структуре, которую ждёт hashcat. Давая проверку структуре. Давая разборку настоящим (полным) хешам из твоего сообщения, чтобы проверить главные данные тикета. Структура у тебя правильная. Проблема почти наверняка в "одной из двух классических ловушек". Обычно по порядку, с самой вероятной.	Let's break down the format. These are "Kerberoasting" hashes (TGS-REP, type 23 = RC4-HMAC). The problem is probably not the hash itself, but the format/structure expected by Hashcat. Let me analyze the actual (complete) main suspicion. The structure is correct. The problem is almost certainly one of "two classic traps". I'll explain them in order, starting with the most likely.
6	## 1. Главное подозрение: hashcat НЕ помогает, потому что хеш неправильный, а проблема в openrouter.all_russian_english +	

When I reviewed the file download records specifically related to Manus from April and May, it became clear that the operator relied on Manus during a

significant portion of the operation.

A		B		C		D		E	
Nightlight Internet History Forensics (2025.05) - Timeline									
1	Types	Timestamp [UTC]	URL	Title / Name / Status	Data / Value / Path	Interpretation			
387	download	2026-04-10 17:32:31.915	blob:https://manus.io/1b2c7b9c-e2ea-4714-b617-8431088a7080	Complete - 100% [91614/91614]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\bot20_updated.py				
483	download	2026-04-10 15:05:19.996	blob:https://manus.io/9089f62c-96d8-9960-b613-f1f164c9051a	Complete - 100% [1364989/1364989]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\mapManager_v1_0_Win64.zip				
484	download (opened)	2026-04-10 12:05:32.170	blob:https://manus.io/9089f62c-96d8-9960-b613-f1f164c9051a	Complete - 100% [1364989/1364989]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\mapManager_v1_0_Win64.zip				
516	download	2026-04-10 12:57:21.071	blob:https://manus.io/afdaabe7-7c2f4541-8084-7fc306e4513	Complete - 100% [2118144/2118144]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\mapManager.exe				
517	download (opened)	2026-04-10 12:57:21.077	blob:https://manus.io/afdaabe7-7c2f4541-8084-7fc306e4513	Complete - 100% [2118144/2118144]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\mapManager.exe				
523	download	2026-04-10 13:06:22.652	blob:https://manus.io/Zb1033c3-2bc749aa-ad8c-1c62076ef0a0	Complete - 100% [2119168/2119168]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\mapManager (1).exe				
523	download (opened)	2026-04-10 13:06:24.051	blob:https://manus.io/Zb1033c3-2bc749aa-ad8c-1c62076ef0a0	Complete - 100% [2119168/2119168]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\mapManager (1).exe				
532	download	2026-04-10 13:07:10.129	blob:https://manus.io/Z0405d7f-4766-482d-b8af-4157b73de47	Complete - 100% [2137088/2137088]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\mapManager (2).exe				
541	download	2026-04-10 13:26:19.365	blob:https://manus.io/1cab3e87-77bc-479-8cda-1ecd2018efa7	Complete - 100% [2136064/2136064]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\mapManager (3).exe				
542	download (opened)	2026-04-10 13:26:22.360	blob:https://manus.io/1cab3e87-77bc-479-8cda-1ecd2018efa7	Complete - 100% [2136064/2136064]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\mapManager (3).exe				
573	download	2026-04-10 13:55:12.406	blob:https://manus.io/8c385cd5-211b-4d78-97aa-f62833ae5d62	Complete - 100% [2141184/2141184]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\mapManager (4).exe				
574	download (opened)	2026-04-10 14:55:31.920	blob:https://manus.io/8c385cd5-211b-4d78-97aa-f62833ae5d62	Complete - 100% [2141184/2141184]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\mapManager (4).exe				
580	download	2026-04-10 15:48:17.943	blob:https://manus.io/7f248b73-c9f5-43b3-87aa-f744167ba2bc	Complete - 100% [97558/97558]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\bot_for_updated.py				
591	download	2026-04-10 17:56:13.026	blob:https://manus.io/fb30ad5f-91ac-4e0b-40a3-b30449081ca5	Complete - 100% [100521/100521]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\bot_fx_updated (1).py				
748	download	2026-04-13 11:21:38.888	blob:https://manus.io/7c793f90-b5f7-4278-b01f-0670d8984683	Complete - 100% [13156/13156]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\notes_app.py				
775	download	2026-04-15 12:02:35.949	blob:https://manus.io/0840d6d-2f8f47b3-4efb-4ad3ac2c7d68	Complete - 100% [13156/13156]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\notes_app (1).py				
782	download	2026-04-15 12:05:19.448	blob:https://manus.io/706a24c-5243-4101-8076-cab72c8d7777	Complete - 100% [13156/13156]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\notes_app (2).py				
789	download	2026-04-15 12:05:22.831	blob:https://manus.io/ad64b007-897c-4b09-bee3-c874878f886c	Complete - 100% [1143/1143]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\setup_service.sh				
1485	download	2026-04-29 13:51:26.803	blob:https://manus.io/8e01cbb9-5a9d-4af4-88d1-972ca4d1c703	Complete - 100% [2272888/2272888]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\remote_login_output.zip				
1486	download (opened)	2026-04-29 13:51:28.535	blob:https://manus.io/8e01cbb9-5a9d-4af4-88d1-972ca4d1c703	Complete - 100% [2272888/2272888]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\remote_login_output.zip				
1602	download	2026-05-08 11:39:56.644	blob:https://manus.io/60e67b4e-e1a6-4360-952c-59921e78fd3d	Complete - 100% [5125/5125]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\cracked_logins.txt				
2163	download (opened)	2026-05-08 11:39:58.827	blob:https://manus.io/60e67b4e-e1a6-4360-952c-59921e78fd3d	Complete - 100% [5125/5125]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\cracked_logins.txt				
2212	download	2026-05-08 12:39:01.019	blob:https://manus.io/c45a0468-7954-4484-8545-64516f7c1925	Complete - 100% [3633/3633]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\sophos_ovpn_found.zip				
2213	download (opened)	2026-05-08 12:39:02.553	blob:https://manus.io/c45a0468-7954-4484-8545-64516f7c1925	Complete - 100% [3633/3633]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\sophos_ovpn_found.zip				
2293	download	2026-05-09 16:51:27.798	blob:https://manus.io/ae640f3c-4087-4b8c-ec4e-3836620ff6	Complete - 100% [914511/914511]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\ovpn_config_all.zip				
2298	download (opened)	2026-05-09 16:51:30.051	blob:https://manus.io/ae640f3c-4087-4b8c-ec4e-3836620ff6	Complete - 100% [914511/914511]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\ovpn_config_all.zip				
2903	download	2026-05-09 05:46:06.885	blob:https://manus.io/36e6986-4d2-4e32-4318-46d0749493b8	Complete - 100% [2110525/2110525]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\forti-checker (3).zip				
2904	download (opened)	2026-05-09 05:46:13.707	blob:https://manus.io/36e6986-4d2-4e32-4318-46d0749493b8	Complete - 100% [2110525/2110525]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\forti-checker (3).zip				
3293	download	2026-05-09 05:51:12.830	blob:https://manus.io/7c2a933b-c8ef4b4-821d-01cd62ba47a1	Complete - 100% [2132059/2132059]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\forti-checker (1).zip				
3299	download	2026-05-09 06:19:16.647	blob:https://manus.io/2423dbfe-4953-48ce-bcb2-d8b137e38654	Complete - 100% [2132135/2132135]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\forti-checker (2).zip				
3319	download	2026-05-09 06:42:48.948	blob:https://manus.io/79750cd-7607-41f7-950c-66127173a0fc	Complete - 100% [2238611/2238611]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\forti-checker (3).zip				
3324	download	2026-05-09 06:47:41.596	blob:https://manus.io/1dd35ba2-714f-47e8-9748-97130d00669b	Complete - 100% [2132135/2132135]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\forti-checker (4).zip				
3329	download	2026-05-09 06:46:28.828	blob:https://manus.io/4ab884a4-26f7-40fe-861a-fcd0455a25	Complete - 100% [2238611/2238611]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\forti-checker (5).zip				
3344	download	2026-05-09 06:59:24.661	blob:https://manus.io/2da9f091-1683-4f14-b59d-12f1c2b48958	Complete - 100% [2216433/2216433]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\forti-checker (6).zip				
▶	Timeline	Sessions	Storage	Preferences	Sync Data	Extensions	Extension Data	Service Workers	+

Although several months had passed, I wondered whether there might still be a way to retrieve these or related files. I concluded that examining the cache files would be a worthwhile approach and began discussing the possibility with ChatGPT. I then started scanning the Cache_Data records in the Chrome profile to identify the local file paths beginning with /home/ubuntu/ shown in the screenshot and extract the associated web addresses.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Hindsight Internet History Forensics (v2026.06) - Timeline				
2	Type	Timestamp (UTC)	URL	Title / Name / Status	Data / Value / Path
1475	url	2026-04-29 13:18:02.736	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc	Manus	
1476	url	2026-04-29 13:24:53.725	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc?previewEventId=13M4zYL1Pq5B4zSF9RNIN0&previewSandboxPath=h%2Fhome%2Fubuntu%2Fremote_login_output.txt	Извлечение и преобразование данных из файла gate_total1.txt - Manus	
1477	url	2026-04-29 13:24:53.790	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc?previewEventId=13M4zYL1Pq5B4zSF9RNIN0&previewSandboxPath=h%2Fhome%2Fubuntu%2Fremote_login_output.txt	Извлечение и преобразование данных из файла gate_total1.txt - Manus	
1478	url	2026-04-29 13:25:23.256	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc?previewEventId=13M4zYL1Pq5B4zSF9RNIN0&previewSandboxPath=h%2Fhome%2Fubuntu%2Fremote_login_output.txt	Извлечение и преобразование данных из файла gate_total1.txt - Manus	
1479	url	2026-04-29 13:36:36.302	https://manus.im/	Manus: Hands On AI	
1480	url	2026-04-29 13:36:36.302	https://manus.im/app	Library - Manus	
1481	url	2026-04-29 13:36:41.103	https://manus.im/app/ZeZvYlGNOyJWH8IMb04fv	Извлечение и преобразование данных из файла gate_total1.txt - Manus	
1482	url	2026-04-29 13:36:41.672	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc	Manus	
1483	url	2026-04-29 13:51:23.473	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc?previewEventId=bMSiX8HbmZE3ZorTxxjN1&previewSandboxPath=%2Fhome%2Fubuntu%2Fremote_login_output.zip	Извлечение и преобразование данных из файла gate_total1.txt - Manus	
1484	url	2026-04-29 13:51:23.547	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc?previewEventId=bMSiX8HbmZE3ZorTxxjN1&previewSandboxPath=%2Fhome%2Fubuntu%2Fremote_login_output.zip	Извлечение и преобразование данных из файла gate_total1.txt - Manus	
1485	download	2026-04-29 13:51:26.803	blob:https://manus.im/7801c1cb9-5a9d-4af8-88d1-972c4a1d7c03	Complete - 100% [2272888/2272888]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\remote_login_output.zip
1486	download (opened)	2026-04-29 13:51:28.535	blob:https://manus.im/7801c1cb9-5a9d-4af8-88d1-972c4a1d7c03	Complete - 100% [2272888/2272888]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\remote_login_output.zip
1487	url	2026-04-29 14:53:03.404	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc	Manus	
1488	url	2026-04-29 14:53:03.484	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc	Manus	
1590	url	2026-05-02 07:36:34.939	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc	Manus	
2076	url	2026-05-08 09:15:38.951	https://manus.im/	Manus: Hands On AI	
2077	url	2026-05-08 09:15:38.951	https://manus.im/app	Library - Manus	
2078	url	2026-05-08 09:15:54.565	https://manus.im/app/Settings	Manus	
2079	url	2026-05-08 09:15:57.195	https://manus.im/app	Library - Manus	
2080	url	2026-05-08 09:15:57.199	https://manus.im/app/Settings/usage	Manus	
2081	url	2026-05-08 09:16:18.274	https://manus.im/app/Settings/usage/pricing	Manus	
2082	url	2026-05-08 09:16:27.324	https://manus.im/app/Settings/usage	Manus	
2083	url	2026-05-08 09:16:29.835	https://manus.im/app	Library - Manus	
2084	url	2026-05-08 09:16:29.839	https://manus.im/app/Settings/usage/websites	Manus	
2085	url	2026-05-08 09:16:30.712	https://manus.im/app	Library - Manus	
2152	url	2026-05-08 11:10:12.664	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc	Manus	
2160	url	2026-05-08 11:39:50.709	https://manus.im/app/qrlHicgqvCltw44WMKFbc?previewEventId=k9NLpuLqgXjY59ksU806&previewSandboxPath=%2Fhome%2Fubuntu%2Fcracked_login.txt	Извлечение и преобразование данных из файла gate_total1.txt - Manus	

```

chrome_backup -- zsh -- 183x51

chrome_backup % grep -Rl --binary-files=text -oE '/home/ubuntu/[A-Za-z0-9_-]+/.Default' 2>/dev/null | LC_ALL=C sort -u
./Default/Cache/Cache_Data/f_000d36
chrome_backup % f="./Default/Cache/Cache_Data/f_000d36"

python3 - "$f" <<'PY'
import json, sys

f = sys.argv[1]

with open(f, "rb") as fh:
    data = json.load(fh)

def walk(x):
    if isinstance(x, dict):
        for k, v in x.items():
            if k in ("filename", "path", "id", "eventId", "url", "contentType", "contentLength"):
                print(f"{k}={v}")
                walk(v)
    elif isinstance(x, list):
        for v in x:
            walk(v)

walk(data)
[P]
contentLength=5753507
contentType=text/plain
filename=rdweb.txt
id=temp-fTpcQ8lVktWAUJP3XNBwHG
path=/home/ubuntu/upload/rdweb.txt
url=https://private-us-east-1.manuscdn.com/users/310519663480485160/uploads/temp-fTpcQ8lVktWAUJP3XNBwHG_na1fn_cmR3ZWI.txt?Policy=eyJTdGF0ZWlbnQl0lt7IjJlc291cmNlIjoiaHR0cHM6Ly9wcm12YX
eventId=yZBve0chp9vFux2ADgbKih
id=qRHJcggvJcVltw44WMKFbc-/home/ubuntu/upload/rdweb.txt
contentLength=4142690
contentType=application/zip
filename=rdweb-checker.zip
path=/home/ubuntu/rdweb-checker/rdweb-checker.zip
url=https://private-us-east-1.manuscdn.com/sessionFile/qRHJcggvJcVltw44WMKFbc/sandbox/P3pQ8lV05q4DRDDpWuZw0B_1778316662531_na1fn_L2hvbWUvdWJ1bnR1L3Jkd2VilWNoZWNrZXIvcnR3ZWltY2h1Y2tlog
bhJ9XNixmzyaLso6hFeoCsFA__
eventId=aDYfgTLTV0AQz8DosB0ht
id=qRHJcggvJcVltw44WMKFbc-/home/ubuntu/rdweb-checker/rdweb-checker.zip
eventId=vauqtxlRTRYeViGv3WIUN1
path=/home/ubuntu/rdweb-checker/main.go

```

After identifying 45 addresses, I encountered a major surprise when I attempted to access one of them. Even after three months, the file was still accessible. I immediately downloaded all 45 files and began examining the artifacts left behind by the operator individually.

```

private-us-east-1.manuscdn.com/sessionFile/qRHJcggvJcVltw44WMKFbc/sandbox/jST2vc4hfpzNi2KY7B6oU78_177746871018...
Social Blog Social Blog Social Blog Blog Hack 4 Career. Inf... LinkedIn Mert SARICA (mer... Inbox - mert.saric... OSINT All Bookmarks

import re

input_file = "/home/ubuntu/upload/gate_total1.txt"
output_file = "/home/ubuntu/remote_login_output.txt"

# Pattern: https://IP:PORT/remote/login:LOGIN:PASS
# or https://IP/remote/login:LOGIN:PASS (no port -> default 443)
pattern = re.compile(
    r'^https?://(\d{1,3}{?:(\d{1,3}){3}}(?:\.(?:(\d+))?)?/remote/login:(.+)$'
)

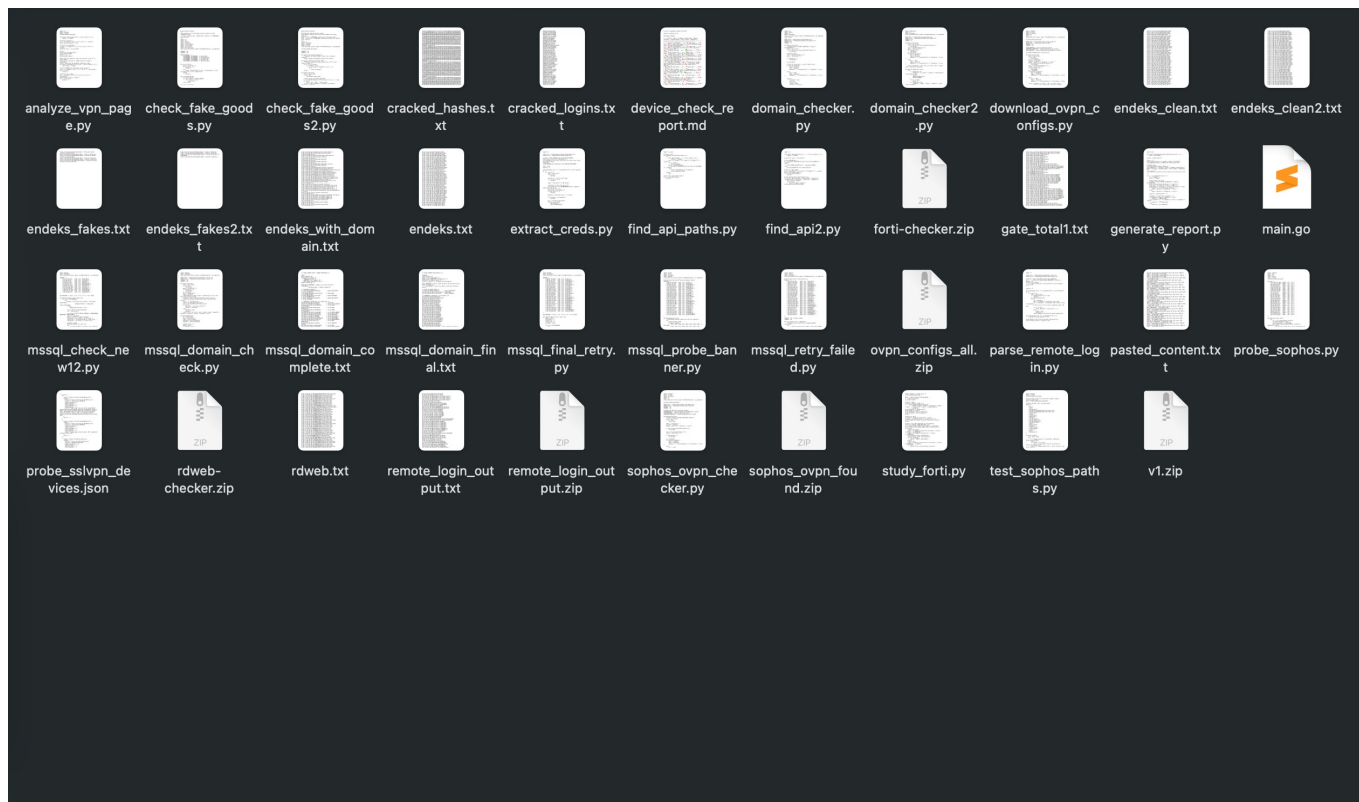
results = []

with open(input_file, "r", encoding="utf-8", errors="replace") as f:
    for line in f:
        line = line.strip()
        if "/remote/login" not in line:
            continue
        m = pattern.match(line)
        if m:
            ip = m.group(1)
            port = m.group(2) if m.group(2) else "443"
            rest = m.group(3) # login:pass (may contain colons in password)
            # Split only on first colon to separate login from pass
            if ":" in rest:
                login, password = rest.split(":", 1)
            else:
                login = rest
                password = ""
            results.append(f"{ip}:{port}:{login}:{password}")

with open(output_file, "w", encoding="utf-8") as f:
    f.write("\n".join(results) + "\n")

print(f"Done! Total lines extracted: {len(results)}")
print(f"Output saved to: {output_file}")

```



When I started examining the Python files, it became apparent that the operator was initially attempting to validate the remote access credentials in their possession and identify systems that could be accessed. For example, `parse_remote_login.py` parses IP addresses, ports, usernames, and passwords.

The files `sophos_ovpn_checker.py`, `probe_sophos.py`, and `test_sophos_paths.py` were used to check authentication and VPN access to Sophos devices, while `download_ovpn_configs.py` attempted to obtain OpenVPN configuration files after successful access.

I also found that `mssql_probe_banner.py`, `mssql_retry_failed.py`, `mssql_final_retry.py`, and `mssql_domain_checker.py` attempted to connect to MSSQL services and validate credentials as well as server and domain information.

The files `study_forti.py` and `analyze_vpn_page.py` were used to examine FortiGate/FortiOS and VPN infrastructure. Other files, including `domain_checker.py`, `domain_checker2.py`, `find_api_paths.py`, and `find_api2.py`, contained checks related to domain and API discovery.

In short, the Python files indicated that the operator was testing the access credentials in their possession in order to identify usable systems.

Preparing for System Access via Virtual Media

As I continued reviewing the timeline, I saw that the operator accessed the system at 192.168.151.98 via FortiGate SSL-VPN at 80.x.y.174:10443. The operator initially used the vMedia, virtual floppy, and virtual CD-ROM functions and shortly afterward opened an iKVM (integrated KVM) session.

I then observed a visit to the Hiren's BootCD PE download page. A few minutes later, the netboot.xyz ISO file was downloaded, followed immediately by another vm_cdrom access.

Taken together, these records suggested that the operator was not merely using the remote management interface, but was preparing to boot the target system from an alternative environment and operate outside the installed operating system using iKVM and virtual media features. In particular, the sequential download of bootable ISOs such as Hiren's BootCD PE and netboot.xyz, followed by vm_cdrom operations, suggested that this preparation was deliberate rather than incidental.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Hindsight Internet History Forensics (v025.0c) - Timeline				
2	Type	Timestamp (UTC)	URL	Title / Name / Status	Data / Value / Path
1990	url	2026-05-08 07:49:56.639	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vmedia		url_name:vmed
1991	url	2026-05-08 07:50:14.628	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vm_floppy		url_name:vm_fm
1992	url	2026-05-08 07:50:19.763	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vm_cdrom		url_name:vm_fm
1993	url	2026-05-08 07:50:21.606	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vm_floppy		url_name:vm_fm
1994	url	2026-05-08 07:51:02.672	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=man_ikvm_html5_bootstrap	Resolution:1024x768 FPS:5	url_name:man_fm
1995	url	2026-05-08 07:51:44.726	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vmedia		url_name:vmed
1996	url	2026-05-08 07:52:26.564	https://www.hirensbootcd.org/download/	Download Hiren's BootCD PE	
1997	file setting (modified)	2026-05-08 07:52:26.567	https://1/*hirensbootcd.org.*	cookie_controls_metadata [in Preferences.profile.content_settings.exceptions]	{'last_modified':'13422700346567009','setting':{}}
1998	file setting (modified)	2026-05-08 07:52:26.568	https://www.realvnc.com/443.*	media_engagement [in Preferences.profile.content_settings.exceptions]	{'expiration':'13430476346568091','last_modified':'13422700346568093','lifetime':'7776000000000','setting':{'hasHighScore':False,'lastMediaPlaybackTime':0.0,'mediaPlayback':'5_Visits':1}}
1999	file setting (characteristic)	2026-05-08 07:52:27.000	www.realvnc.com	Status: Live	{'last_loaded':1778226747,'updates_favicon_in_background':{'use_timestamp':1778226551}} {'updates_title_in_background':{'observation_duration':703}} {'uses_audio_in_background':{'observation_duration':703}}
2000	file setting (hosts)	2026-05-08 07:52:32.268	www.hirensbootcd.org	HSTS observed	{'expiry':1809762752.268137,'host':174-10443,'mode':'force-https','sts_include_subdomains':True,'sts_observed':1778226752.268139}
2001	url	2026-05-08 07:53:02.389	https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vm_cdrom	NEW 26 - Google Таблицы	gd:814615481
2002	url	2026-05-08 07:53:46.909	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vm_cdrom		url_name:vm_fm
2003	autofill	2026-05-08 07:54:31.000			share_host:10.212.134.200 path_argument:VSHAREbootiso
2004	autofill	2026-05-08 07:54:31.000			
2005	url	2026-05-08 07:54:31.937	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=mainmenu	80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=mainmenu	url_name:main
2006	url	2026-05-08 07:54:39.421	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=mainmenu	80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=mainmenu	url_name:main
2007	url	2026-05-08 07:54:40.394	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=mainmenu	80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=mainmenu	url_name:main
2008	url	2026-05-08 07:54:45.596	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=mainmenu	80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=mainmenu	url_name:main
2009	url	2026-05-08 07:54:46.683	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=mainmenu	80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=mainmenu	url_name:main
2010	url	2026-05-08 07:54:53.381	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vmedia	80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vmedia	url_name:vmed
2011	url	2026-05-08 07:54:54.808	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vmedia	80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vmedia	url_name:vmed
2012	url	2026-05-08 07:59:27.724	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vm_floppy	80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vm_floppy	url_name:vm_fm
2013	download	2026-05-08 07:59:41.498	https://boot.netboot.xyz/iso/netboot.xyz.iso	Complete - 100% [2426880/2426880]	C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\netboot.xyz.iso
2014	url	2026-05-08 08:03:19.239	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vm_cdrom	80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vm_cdrom	url_name:vm_fm
2015	url	2026-05-08 08:05:33.928	https://80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vmedia	80.174-10443/proxy/499e4d27/https/192.168.151.98/cgi/url_redirect.cgi?url_name=vmedia	url_name:vmed

Another Target: Synology NAS Devices

As I moved further back through the timeline, the web address titled Synology Distributed Checker, <http://213.177.179.56/>, caught my attention. In particular, shortly after the goods.txt file was downloaded from this website, logins to Synology network attached storage (NAS) devices were observed. This raised the possibility that the operator had somehow obtained

usernames and passwords from this file for use against the devices.

1	HindSight Internet History Kioskview (v0206-06) - Timeline				2	Type	Timestamp [UTC]	URL	Type / Name / Status	Data / Value / Path	Interpretation
2499	url	2026-05-11 11:01:40.549	http://213.177.179.56/	Synology Distributed Checker							
2500	url	2026-05-11 11:11:25.486	http://213.177.179.56/	Synology Distributed Checker							
2501	url	2026-05-11 11:21:48.607	http://213.177.179.56/	Synology Distributed Checker							
2502	url	2026-05-11 11:39:46.086	http://213.177.179.56/	Synology Distributed Checker							
2503	url	2026-05-11 11:39:49.805	http://213.177.179.56/	Synology Distributed Checker							
2504	url	2026-05-11 11:39:57.468	http://213.177.179.56/	Synology Distributed Checker							
2505	url	2026-05-11 12:01:36.750	http://213.177.179.56/	Synology Distributed Checker							
2506	url	2026-05-11 12:04:28.054	http://85-44-8080/	85-44							
2507	url	2026-05-11 12:12:24.968	http://85-44-8080/	85-44							
2508	url	2026-05-11 12:15:58.404	http://213.177.179.56/	Synology Distributed Checker							
2509	download	2026-05-11 12:22:34.616	http://213.177.179.56/api/goods	Complete - 100% [33/33]					C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods.txt		
2510	download (opened)	2026-05-11 12:22:36.078	http://213.177.179.56/api/goods	Complete - 100% [33/33]					C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods.txt		
2511	url	2026-05-11 13:17:32.314	https://85-44-8080/	85-44							
2512	site setting (modified)	2026-05-11 13:17:32.316	https://85-44-8080/	cookie_controls_metadata [in Preferences.profile.content_settings.exceptions]					{last_modified: '13422979052316197', 'setting': {}}		
2513	download	2026-05-11 13:27:50.594	http://213.177.179.56/api/goods	Complete - 100% [69/69]					C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods (1).txt		
2514	download (opened)	2026-05-11 13:27:51.858	http://213.177.179.56/api/goods	Complete - 100% [69/69]					C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods (1).txt		
2515	site setting (dips)	2026-05-11 13:28:07.474	https://127.5001/	first_user_activation_time							
2516	url	2026-05-11 13:28:11.822	https://127.5001/	Foods							
2517	url	2026-05-11 13:28:16.248	https://127.5001/	Foods							
2518	url	2026-05-11 13:28:17.598	https://127.5001/	Foods							
2519	site setting (characteristic)	2026-05-11 13:28:28.000	https://127.5001/	Status: Live							
2520	download	2026-05-11 13:37:23.550	http://213.177.179.56/api/goods	Complete - 100% [105/105]					C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods (2).txt		
2521	download (opened)	2026-05-11 13:39:39.488	http://213.177.179.56/api/goods	Complete - 100% [105/105]					C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods (2).txt		
2522	download	2026-05-11 13:52:00.561	http://213.177.179.56/api/goods	Complete - 100% [206/206]					C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods (3).txt		
2523	download (opened)	2026-05-11 13:52:01.909	http://213.177.179.56/api/goods	Complete - 100% [206/206]					C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods (3).txt		
2524	url	2026-05-11 13:54:10.398	https://127.5001/	/NAS - Synology DiskStation							
2525	site setting (modified)	2026-05-11 13:54:10.400	https://127.5001/	cookie_controls_metadata [in Preferences.profile.content_settings.exceptions]					{last_modified: '13422981250400185', 'setting': {}}		
2526	autofill	2026-05-11 13:54:30.000	https://127.5001/	username					achily		
2527	download	2026-05-11 13:55:04.201	https://127.5001/	Complete - 100% [313/313]					C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\README_FOR_DECRYPT.txt		
									(expiration: '13430757314891480', last_modified: '13422981314891485')		

To learn more about the Synology Distributed Checker page, I began searching the cache files under Cache/Cache_Data in the Chrome profile directory for HTML content. I first identified relevant files by searching for characteristic HTML structures such as `<!DOCTYPE html>`, `<html>`, `<head>`, and `<body>`.

I then converted the cache files I identified into readable text using strings, saved the output to temporary text files, and created separate .html files after removing the HTML tags. Finally, I opened these files directly in Google Chrome to visually inspect which web interfaces had been preserved in the cache.

With this method, I was able to confirm that the Synology Distributed Checker interface was indeed a cached HTML page. The interface appeared to have been designed to perform high volume username/password attempts against Synology devices and collect the results through a centralized panel.

```
Default — -zsh — 130x42

% grep -R -a -l -E '<!DOCTYPE html>|<html>|<head>|<body>' Cache/Cache_Data 2>/dev/null
Cache/Cache_Data/data_1
Cache/Cache_Data/f_0007b2
Cache/Cache_Data/f_0007b3
Cache/Cache_Data/f_000d18
Cache/Cache_Data/f_000d33
% for f in \
  Cache/Cache_Data/data_1 \
  Cache/Cache_Data/f_0007b2 \
  Cache/Cache_Data/f_0007b3 \
  Cache/Cache_Data/f_000d18 \
  Cache/Cache_Data/f_000d33 \
do
  name=$(basename "$f")
  strings -a "$f" > "/tmp/${name}.txt"
  sed -n '/<!DOCTYPE html>/,/<\/html>/p' "/tmp/${name}.txt" > "$HOME/Desktop/${name}.html"
  echo "$name -> $(wc -c < "$HOME/Desktop/${name}.html") bytes"
done
data_1 ->      0 bytes
f_0007b2 ->    25516 bytes
f_0007b3 ->    25516 bytes
f_000d18 ->      0 bytes
f_000d33 ->    18134 bytes
% open -a "Google Chrome" \
~/Desktop/data_1.html \
~/Desktop/f_0007b2.html \
~/Desktop/f_0007b3.html \
~/Desktop/f_000d33.html
```

Browser tabs: Social, Blog, Social, Blog, Social, Blog, Blog | Hack 4 Career. Inf... | LinkedIn | Mert SARICA (mer... | Inbox - mert.saric... | OSINT | All Bookmarks

FortiVPN Panel v3.0

CHECK Build Upload targets Check Scan Stop Reset

0 VALID
valid.txt

0 INVALID
invalid.txt

0 OFFLINE
offline.txt

0 :0

0 HOSTS 445
SMB
hosts_445.txt

0 HOSTS 389
LDAP
hosts_389.txt

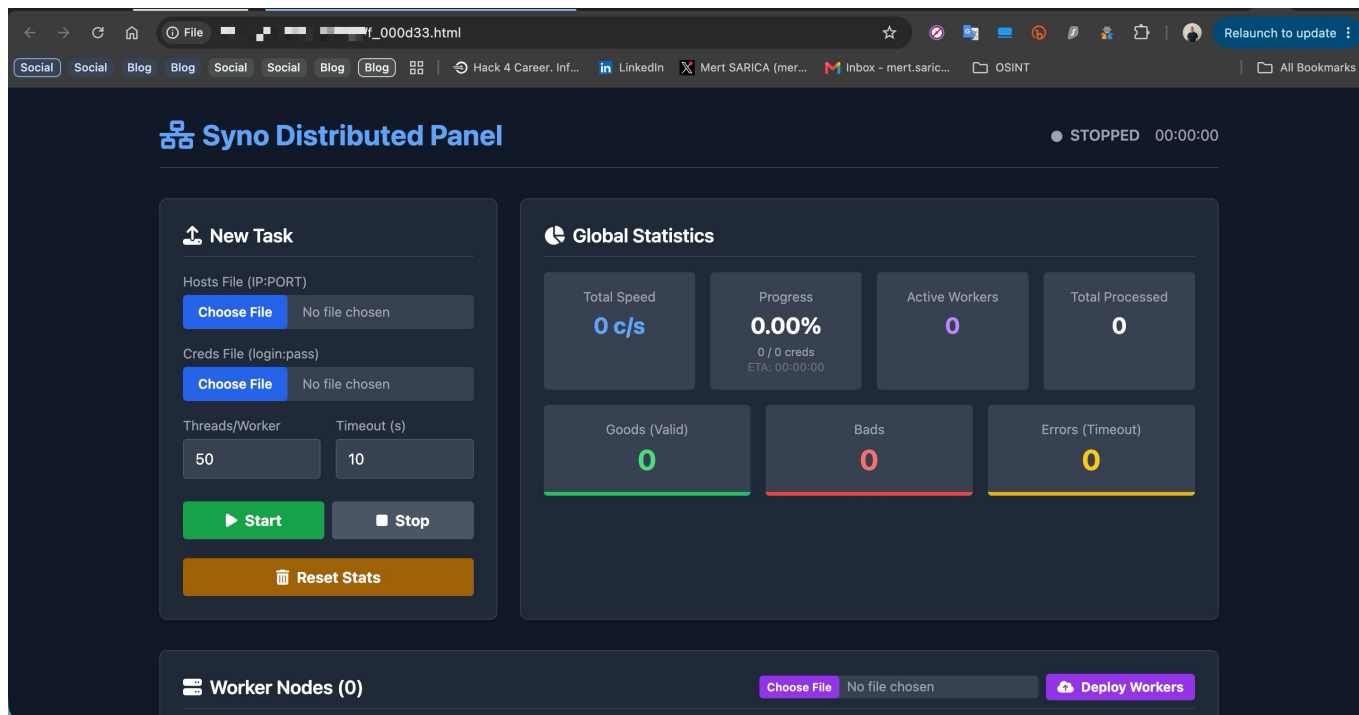
0 hosts_all.txt

0 VPN

0%

Drag & Drop targets.txt
: IP:PORT:LOGIN:PASS

W	UPTIME	VPN	OK	ERR	445	389
---	--------	-----	----	-----	-----	-----



Accessing a Previously Compromised Device

As I moved further down the timeline, the filename `README_FOR_DECRYPT.txt` immediately caught my attention. When I reviewed the downloaded files, it appeared that this file had also caught the operator's attention.

Hindsight Internet History Forensics (v2024.05) - Timeline				Title / Name / Status		Data / Value / Path		Interpretation	
Type	Time	Time (UTC)	URL						
2499	url	2026-05-11 11:01:40.549	http://213.177.179.56/		Synology Distributed Checker				
2500	url	2026-05-11 11:11:25.486	http://213.177.179.56/		Synology Distributed Checker				
2501	url	2026-05-11 11:21:48.607	http://213.177.179.56/		Synology Distributed Checker				
2502	url	2026-05-11 11:39:46.086	http://213.177.179.56/		Synology Distributed Checker				
2503	url	2026-05-11 11:39:49.805	http://213.177.179.56/		Synology Distributed Checker				
2504	url	2026-05-11 11:39:57.468	http://213.177.179.56/		Synology Distributed Checker				
2505	url	2026-05-11 12:01:36.750	http://213.177.179.56/		Synology Distributed Checker				
2506	url	2026-05-11 12:04:18.054	http://85.144.8080/		85.144.8080				
2507	url	2026-05-11 12:12:24.988	http://85.144.8080/		85.144.8080				
2508	url	2026-05-11 12:15:58.404	http://213.177.179.56/		Synology Distributed Checker				
2509	download	2026-05-11 12:22:34.616	http://213.177.179.56/np/goods		Complete - 100% [13/13]			C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods.txt	
2510	download (opened)	2026-05-11 12:22:36.078	http://213.177.179.56/np/goods		Complete - 100% [13/13]			C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods.txt	
2511	url	2026-05-11 13:17:32.314	https://85.144.8080/		85.144.8080				
2512	site setting (modified)	2026-05-11 13:17:32.316	https://85.144.8080/		cookie_controls_metadata [in Preferences.profile.content_settings.exceptions]			[\"last_modified\": \"13422979052316197\", \"setting\": {}]	
2513	download	2026-05-11 13:27:50.384	http://213.177.179.56/np/goods		Complete - 100% [69/69]			C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods [1].txt	
2514	download (opened)	2026-05-11 13:27:51.858	http://213.177.179.56/np/goods		Complete - 100% [69/69]			C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods [1].txt	
2515	site setting (dips)	2026-05-11 13:28:07.474	https://127.5001/		first_user_activation_time				
2516	url	2026-05-11 13:28:11.822	https://127.5001/		127.5001				
2517	url	2026-05-11 13:28:16.248	https://127.5001/		127.5001				
2518	url	2026-05-11 13:28:17.598	https://127.5001/		127.5001				
2519	site setting (characteristic)	2026-05-11 13:28:28.000	https://127.5001/		Status: Live				
2520	download	2026-05-11 13:37:23.550	http://213.177.179.56/np/goods		Complete - 100% [105/105]			C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods [2].txt	
2521	download (opened)	2026-05-11 13:39:39.488	http://213.177.179.56/np/goods		Complete - 100% [105/105]			C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods [2].txt	
2522	download	2026-05-11 13:52:00.561	http://213.177.179.56/np/goods		Complete - 100% [206/206]			C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods [3].txt	
2523	download (opened)	2026-05-11 13:52:01.909	http://213.177.179.56/np/goods		Complete - 100% [206/206]			C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\goods [3].txt	
2524	url	2026-05-11 13:54:10.398	https://127.5001/		127.5001				
2525	site setting (modified)	2026-05-11 13:54:10.400	https://127.5001/		cookie_controls_metadata [in Preferences.profile.content_settings.exceptions]			[\"last_modified\": \"13422981250400185\", \"setting\": {}]	
2526	autofill	2026-05-11 13:54:30.000	https://127.5001/		127.5001				
2527	download	2026-05-11 13:55:04.201	https://127.5001/		127.5001			C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\README_FOR_DECRYPT.txt	

Timeline

SessionsStoragePreferences ()Sync DataExtensionsExtension DataService Workers

EditAccessibilityInvestigate

80%

threat actor.

Registered Email Addresses

When I checked the email addresses used by the operator in the timeline, I found records associated with the following websites.

URL: <https://console.wasabisys.com/> Email Address: ci**79[[@](mailto:ci**79@cosdas.com)]cosdas.com

URL: <https://manus.im/> Email Address: xi**48[[@](mailto:xi**48@outlook.com)]outlook.com

URL: <https://app.cyberyozh.com/> Email Address: sh**ha[[@](mailto:sh**ha@outlook.com)]outlook.com

URL: <https://ds.smartape.net/> Email Address: sh**ha[[@](mailto:sh**ha@outlook.com)]outlook.com

URL: <https://accounts.x.ai/> Email Address: sh**ha[[@](mailto:sh**ha@outlook.com)]outlook.com

URL: <https://forum.exploit.in/> Email Address: am**64[[@](mailto:am**64@hotmail.com)]hotmail.com

URL: <https://openrouter.ai/> Email Address: am**64[[@](mailto:am**64@hotmail.com)]hotmail.com

A	B	C	D	E
Hindsight Internet History Forensics (v2026.06) - Timeline				
Type	Timestamp (UTC)	URL	Title / Name / Status	Data / Value / Path
autofill	2026-04-04 06:34:34.000			AccountName ci 79@cosdas.com
login (declined save)	2026-04-04 06:34:38.434	https://console.wasabisys.com/		ci 79@cosdas.com
autofill	2026-04-10 06:51:23.000			email xi 48@outlook.com
login (declined save)	2026-04-10 06:51:33.506	https://manus.im/		xi 48@outlook.com
autofill	2026-04-10 13:59:27.000			login sh ha@outlook.com
autofill	2026-04-10 13:59:57.000			login sh ha@outlook.com
autofill	2026-04-10 14:00:44.000			email sh ha@outlook.com
autofill	2026-04-10 14:01:49.000			login sh ha@outlook.com
login (declined save)	2026-04-10 14:02:44.583	https://app.cyberyozh.com/		sh ha@outlook.com
login (declined save)	2026-04-13 04:27:30.418	https://ds.smartape.net/		sh ha@outlook.com
login (declined save)	2026-04-17 08:08:36.868	https://accounts.x.ai/		sh ha@outlook.com
autofill	2026-04-17 08:11:19.000			email sh ha@outlook.com
autofill	2026-05-11 05:27:16.000			email_address am 64@hotmail.com
login (declined save)	2026-05-11 05:39:06.793	https://forum.exploit.in/		am 64@hotmail.com
autofill	2026-05-20 05:34:04.000			identifier am 64@hotmail.com
autofill	2026-05-20 05:35:46.000			search-linkEmail am 64@hotmail.com
login (declined save)	2026-05-20 10:11:16.940	https://openrouter.ai/		am 64@hotmail.com

Exploit.in Records

When I looked at the Exploit.in records in the timeline, one of the better known platforms in the cybercrime ecosystem, I found that the operator performed broad searches for terms such as RDP, brute, and bthoster, and subsequently viewed threads where various brute force tools were shared.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Midnight Internet History Forensics (v2026.06) - Timeline					
2	Type	Timestamp (UTC)	URL	Title / Name / Status	Data / Value / Path	Interpretation
4181	session (navigation)	2026-06-25 07:00:21.309	https://forum.exploit.in/topic/281101/?page=2&tab=comments&comment=1689056	Ставим Open 3.6 без цензуры Локально - Страница 2 - Программирование - Exploit.IN Forum	Initiator: https://forum.exploit.in Referrer: https://forum.exploit.in/search/?q=GLM Original URL: https://forum.exploit.in/topic/281101/?do=findComment&comment=1689056	
4182	url	2026-06-25 07:00:21.309	https://forum.exploit.in/topic/281101/?page=2&tab=comments&comment=1689056	Ставим Open 3.6 без цензуры Локально - Страница 2 - Программирование - Exploit.IN Forum		page: 2 tab: comments [Query String Parser]
4183	url	2026-06-25 07:00:25.586	https://forum.exploit.in/challenge/?return=/	Verify Humanity Exploit.IN Forum	Nav Index: 17 Tab Index: 15 Form Data: (unnamed) [checkbox]: on Original URL: https://forum.exploit.in/	return: / [Query String Parser]
4184	session (navigation)	2026-06-25 07:00:25.586	https://forum.exploit.in/challenge/?return=/	Verify Humanity Exploit.IN Forum		
4185	url	2026-06-25 07:00:27.430	https://forum.exploit.in/			
4186	session (navigation)	2026-06-25 07:00:27.430	https://forum.exploit.in/	Exploit.IN Forum	Nav Index: 18 Tab Index: 15 Form Data: search_and_or [radio]: on; search_and_or [radio]: off; type [radio]: on; type [radio]: off; search_in [radio]: on; search_in [radio]: off Initiator: https://forum.exploit.in Referrer: https://forum.exploit.in/challenge/?return=/ Original URL: https://forum.exploit.in/verify?return=92f	
4187	url	2026-06-25 07:00:33.530	https://forum.exploit.in/search/?q=claude	Результаты поиска по "claude". - Exploit.IN Forum		q: claude [Query String Parser]
4188	url	2026-06-25 07:00:58.417	https://forum.exploit.in/topic/283855/?do=findComment&comment=1688966	Claude Opus 4.8. - Нейронные сети и искусственный интеллект (ИИ) - Exploit.IN Forum		do: findComment comment: 1688966 [Query String Parser]
4189	url	2026-06-25 07:00:58.417	https://forum.exploit.in/topic/283855/?tab=comments&comment=1688966	Claude Opus 4.8. - Нейронные сети и искусственный интеллект (ИИ) - Exploit.IN Forum		tab: comments [Query String Parser]
4190	url	2026-06-25 07:01:47.586	https://forum.exploit.in/topic/283855/?page=2	Claude Opus 4.8. - Нейронные сети и искусственный интеллект (ИИ) - Exploit.IN Forum		page: 2 [Query String Parser]
4191	url	2026-06-25 07:04:05.018	https://forum.exploit.in/topic/283855/?tab=comments&comment=1688966	Claude Opus 4.8. - Нейронные сети и искусственный интеллект (ИИ) - Exploit.IN Forum		tab: comments [Query String Parser]
4192	url	2026-06-25 07:04:06.328	https://forum.exploit.in/search/?q=claude	Результаты поиска по "claude". - Exploit.IN Forum		q: claude [Query String Parser]
4193	session (navigation)	2026-06-25 07:04:06.328	https://forum.exploit.in/search/?q=claude	Результаты поиска по "claude". - Exploit.IN Forum	Nav Index: 19 Tab Index: 15 Initiator: https://forum.exploit.in Referrer: https://forum.exploit.in/ Original URL: https://forum.exploit.in/search/?do=quicksearch	
4194	url	2026-06-25 07:04:14.473	https://forum.exploit.in/topic/285532/?do=findComment&comment=1696676	AI Pentest Checker — авто-пенглес за 10 мин [БЕТА-БЕСПЛАТНО] - [Софт] - Программы, утилиты, лицензии - Exploit.IN Forum		do: findComment comment: 1696676 [Query String Parser]

Conclusion

This analysis showed that the Chrome profile left behind by the FortiBleed operator contained far more than visited websites and search history. It preserved a broader set of traces that helped reconstruct how the operation was conducted. Evidence ranging from the use of AI platforms and files retained in the cache to Python tools for validating access credentials, activity across attack surfaces such as FortiGate, Sophos, RDWeb, and Synology, and research conducted on Exploit.in enabled me to piece together key elements of the operator's working methods. In particular, recovering files that remained accessible through the Chrome cache months later demonstrated how browser artifacts can help recover operational traces that might otherwise appear to have been lost.

The findings suggest that the FortiBleed operator was not a highly specialized threat actor following a fixed target or attack chain. Instead, the operator appears to have been an opportunistic, financially motivated cybercriminal who tested the access credentials in their possession against different systems, relied heavily on username/password-based access methods, automation, and ready made tools, and searched for weak links across a broad attack surface.

More broadly, this analysis demonstrates the evidentiary value of a single Chrome profile in a digital forensics investigation. Browser artifacts can provide visibility into an attacker's areas of interest, tools, working habits, operational approach, and OPSEC mistakes, making them a valuable source of intelligence when reconstructing the activities of a threat actor.

Hope to see you in the following articles.