



# Computer Forensics:

Software and Technologies: Password Cracking and Encrypted Data Access, Mobile Forensics, Cloud Forensics

# ElcomSoft



## Who we are

- Privately held company, established in 1990
- 100% in-house research and development
- Offices in Moscow and Prague
- Over 300 partners and resellers on all continents
- Events and trainings in multiple countries
- Six US patents (including GPU acceleration)
- Corporate, government, military and forensic customers
- Over 400,000 installations worldwide



# Endorsements and Certifications

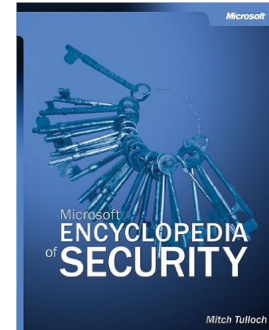
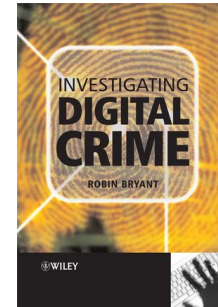
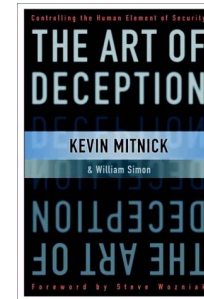
## IT Industry

- Microsoft Partner: Gold Application Development
- Intel Premier Elite Partner
- Member of NVIDIA's CUDA/GPU Computing Registered Developer Program
- Member of several forensic organizations worldwide
- Quotes and references: Microsoft Encyclopedia of Security, The art of deception (Kevin Mitnick), IT Auditing (Chris Davis), Hacking exposed (Stuart McClure), Hacking For Dummies (Kevin Beaver), Computer Network Security: Theory and Practice (We Wang), Investigating Digital Crime (Robin P Bryant), Security Engineering (Ross J. Anderson), Network Know-How: An Essential Guide for the Accidental Admin (John Ross)



## Microsoft Partner

Gold Application Development  
Gold Intelligent Systems



# Our Customers

## Government and Law Enforcement





# Our Customers

IT and Commercial



# Achievements

## Timeline

- **2002:** US vs ElcomSoft (<https://www.cnet.com/news/elcomsoft-verdict-not-guilty/>)
- **2007:** Found a government backdoor in Quicken ([http://www.theregister.co.uk/2007/06/23/quicken\\_password\\_backdoor/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2007/06/23/quicken_password_backdoor/))
- **2007:** Patented GPU acceleration for password cracking (<https://www.elcomsoft.com/news/135.html>)
- **2008:** Guaranteed near-instant cracking PDF & Word (<http://www.prweb.com/releases/thunder/tables/prweb1324054.htm>)
- **2010:** iOS encryption cracked, first on the market (<http://www.pcworld.com/article/202629/article.html>)
- **2011:** BlackBerry password recovery, first and only (<https://blog.elcomsoft.com/2011/09/recovering-blackberry-device-passwords/>)
- **2013:** Download iCloud backups, again first (<https://www.elcomsoft.com/news/556.html>)

# Achievements

## Timeline

- **2014:** Decrypt BlackBerry 10 backups, again first (<https://blog.elcomsoft.com/2014/05/phone-password-breaker-3/#bb10>)
- **2014:** iCloud access without Apple ID and password: (<https://www.elcomsoft.com/news/584.html>)
- **2015:** Download all Google data (<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/elcomsoft-cloud-explorer-forensic-acquisition-of-google-accounts-563228681.html>)
- **2016:** Recover deleted iCloud photos (<https://blog.elcomsoft.com/2016/08/icloud-photo-library-all-your-photos-are-belong-to-us/>)
- **2016:** Instant access to call logs and real-time iCloud data (<https://blog.elcomsoft.com/2016/11/iphone-user-your-calls-go-to-icloud/>)
- **2017:** Extract passwords and CC data from iCloud
- **2018:** Extract & decrypt Apple Health data from iCloud
- **2019:** Extract full file system & keychain from iOS 12 devices



# GPU Acceleration

## Hardware-Accelerated Distributed Desktop Forensics

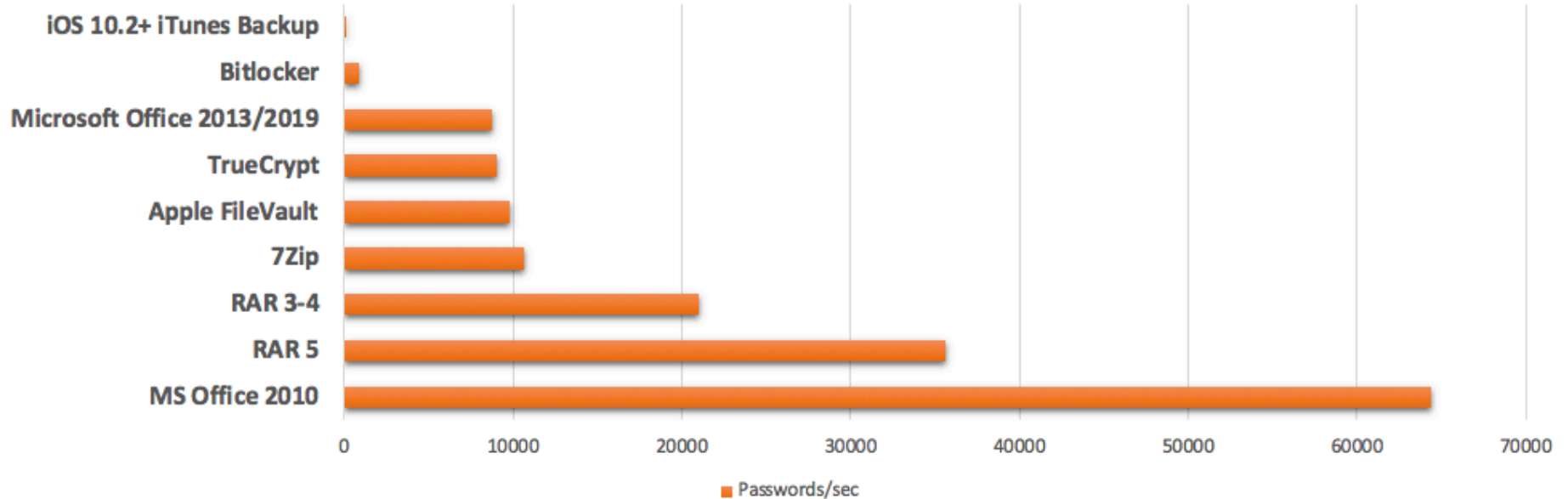
- **Break passwords to hundreds formats faster**
  - GPU acceleration (~50-200 times faster than CPU), patented
  - Thunder tables (instantly breaks legacy 40-bit encryption: Word, Excel, PDF)
  - Distributed recovery in LAN, WAN, on Amazon EC2 and Microsoft Azure
- **Several ways to break into encrypted volumes (including instant unlock)**
  - BitLocker, FileVault 2, PGP, TrueCrypt, VeraCrypt
- **Advanced attacks**
  - Instant decryption or recovery for many formats
  - Smart attacks using dictionaries, wordlists, mutations and masks



# GPU Acceleration

## Benchmarks

### NVIDIA GeForce GTX 1080



# Crypto Containers

## Instant Unlock of Encrypted Volumes

- Break into all major crypto containers without brute forcing the password
  - Encrypted volumes and full-disk encryption
  - **BitLocker, PGP, TrueCrypt, VeraCrypt, FileVault2**
  - Get encryption/recovery keys from memory, hibernation file, Active Directory, cloud
  - Mounts encrypted volumes as drive letters
- or-
- Decrypts encrypted content

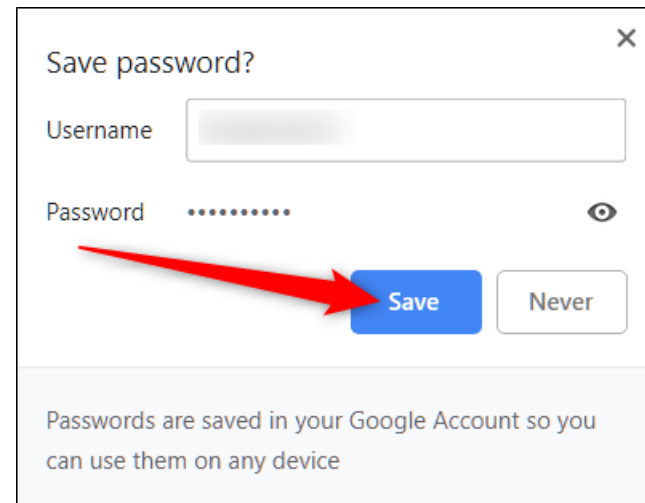


# Instant Password Extraction

## Extract Saved Passwords from User Computers

Some passwords can be recovered instantly or very quickly

- Extract passwords and autocomplete forms from all popular browsers
- **Microsoft IE & Edge, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Opera**
- **POP3/IMAP/SMTP/NNTP** passwords in MS Outlook, Outlook Express, Windows Mail and Live Mail, Thunderbird
- Passwords saved for over 80 instant messengers
- View individual passwords or export everything into text file
- Dozens applications use weak encryption so allowing instant recovery
- Build a custom dictionary and attack strong passwords to other files and documents

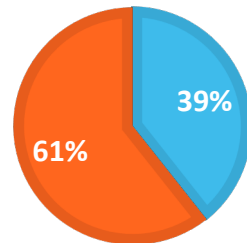


## Smartphone usage over the world

- Apple: 1.4 billion active (January 2019)
- [theverge.com/2019/1/29/18202736/apple-devices-ios-earnings-q1-2019](https://www.theverge.com/2019/1/29/18202736/apple-devices-ios-earnings-q1-2019)
- Google: 2.5 billion active Android devices (May 2019)
- 33% of the world population have a smartphone (stats include small children)

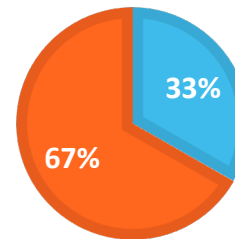
### DEVICES

■ Apple ■ Google



### USERS

■ Have smartphone ■ Don't have



# Mobile Forensics

## Apple iOS, Google and Microsoft

- Logical, physical and cloud extraction
- File system acquisition of Apple iOS devices
- Advanced logical extraction
- Access locked iOS devices
- Extraction from Google accounts
- Microsoft accounts: web browsing data, Skype
- Complete support for two-factor authentication
- Tools for viewing and analyzing extracted evidence

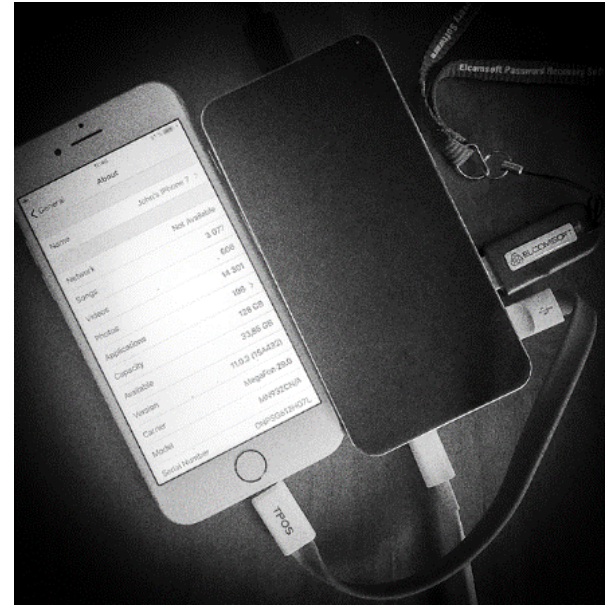




# Mobile Forensics

## iOS file system acquisition

- Captures iOS devices file system image
  - Downloaded mail and messages
  - Chats, including protected and private
  - Temporary files and cache
  - Private app data, system databases, logs, temp files
- Full access to private application data, system databases, logs, temp files etc
- Comprehensive location data from multiple sources
- **Now possible without jailbreaking - for all phones up to iPhone X**
- **For newer devices, directly through known exploits**
- Device secrets (iOS keychain)
  - User passwords
  - Encryption keys, authentication tokens



# Mobile Forensics

## Advanced logical extraction for iOS

- Logical acquisition is more than an iTunes backup
- Extract backups, media files, crash logs and shared files
- Decrypt user passwords (iOS keychain)
- Break unknown passwords to iTunes backups
- Shared files accessible via a yet another dedicated mechanism; may contain valuable information, e.g. password databases (for third-party password managers)
- Crash logs may give insight into what was installed on the device (in the past) and build a timeline
- Cannot be password-protected; always accessible if the device can be paired
- Media files (photos and videos) available through a separate mechanism; may include info on deleted media files
- Unlike backups, media cannot be password-protected
- Sometimes possible even for locked devices (using lockdown/pairing records)

## Advanced logical: backups

- A comprehensive solution to extract everything available without a jailbreak
- iTunes backups
  - Data for apps allowed to back up, including photos
  - User passwords, but no other secrets
  - Password-protected backups have advantages
  - Unknown passwords are a huge disadvantage
  - Backup password can be reset with passcode
  - We have tools to attack unknown backup passwords
  - Extract and decrypt the keychain: passwords, tokens and much more



Elcomsoft Phone Viewer

Locations from EXIF and Wi-Fi data is being searched for. Cancel

Vladimir's iPhone X  
[Device info](#)

## Locations

Filter ON Hide

Date

From: 21.07.2012

Until: 20.09.2018

Devices

- iPad mini 3 (5)
- iPhone (68)
- iPhone 4S (6)
- iPhone 5 (1)
- iPhone 5s (3)
- iPhone 6 (1134)
- iPhone 6s (11)
- iPhone 7 (1672)
- iPhone X (39)
- iPhone X (GSM) (5)

[Check all.](#) [Uncheck all.](#)

Sources

- Base Station (LTE) (3139)
- Calendar (32)
- Camera roll (4932)
- Google Maps (1165)
- Graph Service (851)
- Locations cache (37533)
- Significant locations (398)

[Check all.](#) [Uncheck all.](#)

[Hide statistics](#)

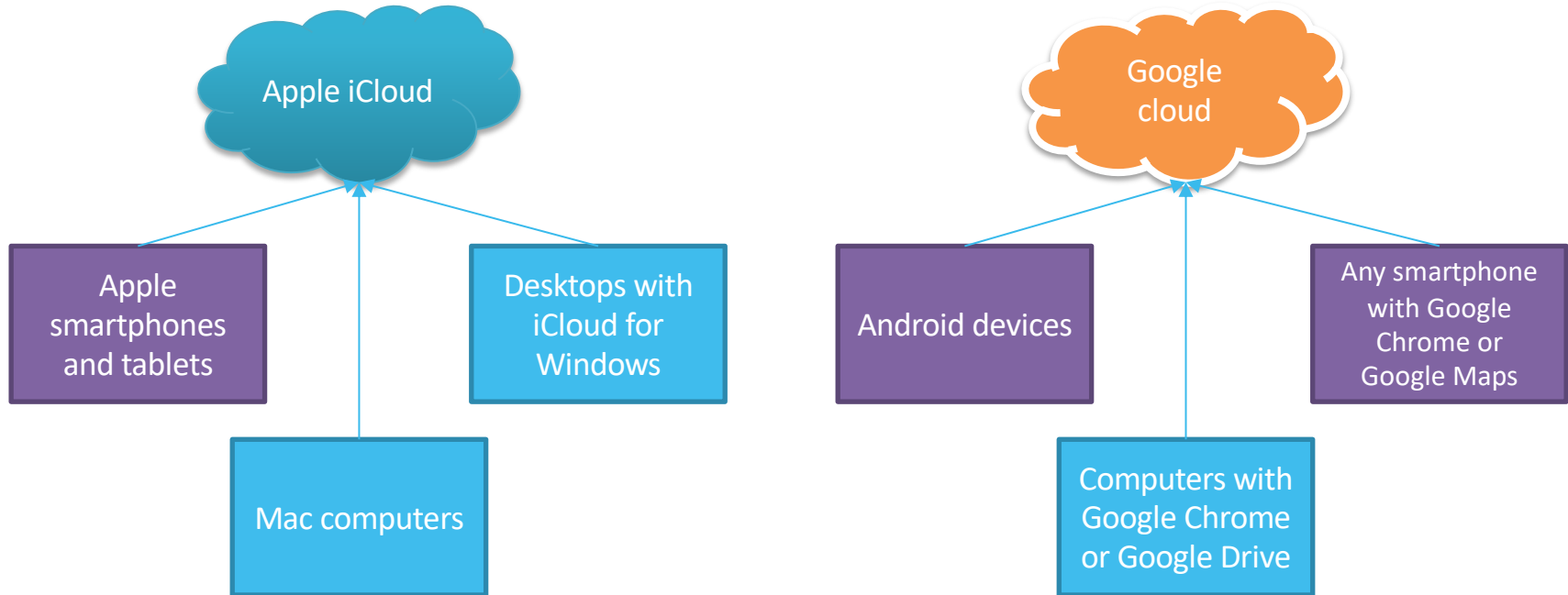
Locations: 58051  
 Most recent: 20.09.2018 21:39:34 [55.6392288 37.5383277](#)  
 Oldest: 21.07.2012 11:12:19 [60.7353333 7.1228333](#)

Start date	End date	Location	Address	Source	Device	Description
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">55.6392274 37.5383805</a>	N/A	Locations cache	Unknown	Location from
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6569855 -79.3663677</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6478675 -79.3725589</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6473914 -79.3854163</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6571190 -79.3733464</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6501776 -79.3838502</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6587155 -79.3757145</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6479719 -79.3841547</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6531198 -79.3771455</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6479719 -79.3666280</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6500623 -79.3841547</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6479719 -79.3858576</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6534647 -79.3769452</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6559167 -79.3518040</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.4
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6509099 -79.3624454</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.41 km
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6498167 -79.3607394</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 4.85 km
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6569374 -79.3571669</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.41 km
20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	20.09.2018 21:39:02 ...	<a href="#">43.6596088 -79.3517464</a>	N/A	Base Station ...	Unknown	Accuracy: 1.41 km

Sources

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## Cloud data: not just smartphones





## Cloud forensics

### Apple iCloud contains a lot of valuable evidence

- iOS device backups: 2 snapshots of each device
- Synchronized data
- **Passwords and tokens**
- File/document storage
- Data from all devices connected to the account (iPhones, iPads, Apple TV, Apple Watch, Apple Home accessories, desktops running Windows or macOS)
- Most data updated in real time (over W-Fi or mobile data)
- May contain data already deleted from devices
- Protected with password, second factor and additional security measures



## Synced data vs backups

- **Real-time synchronization**, data appears in the cloud in minutes
- Backups are huge, difficult to access, contain a lot of useless information
- Backups are often disabled; sync is enabled by default
- Deleted data is often available from both sources
- **Apple detects backup downloads by third-party apps and may lock accounts**
- Some types of synced data not included in iCloud backups if sync is enabled:
  - Photos (if iCloud Photo Library is enabled)
  - Text messages and iMessages (iOS 11.4 and newer, if synced)
  - Health & Home: not in iCloud backups (regardless the settings)

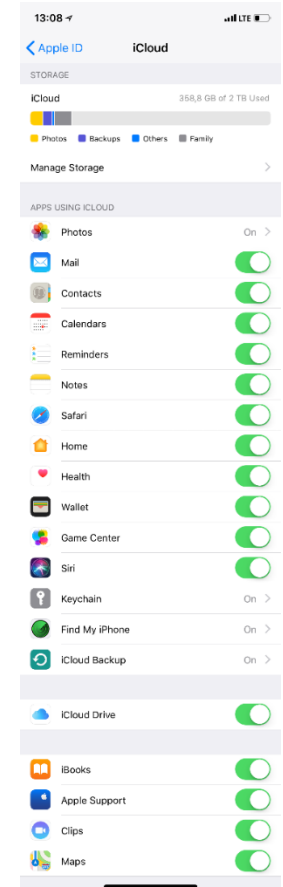
## iCloud Keychain

- Synchronized over all connected devices
- Requires Two-Factor Authentication and device passcode
- Contains:
  - Apple IDs with passwords
  - Wi-Fi passwords
  - E-Mail account passwords
  - Passwords stored in Safari
  - Credit cards (no CVC/CVV)
  - Authentication tokens (e.g. for social networks)
  - FileVault2 recovery token (may help to unlock desktop)



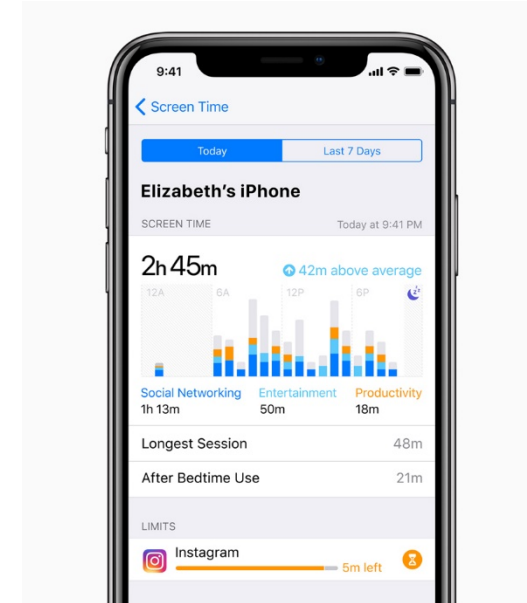
# Apple Health and Cloud

- Apple Health stores a plethora of evidence
- Health data such as heartrate measurements, walking and running activities helped solve hundreds of crimes
  - Including several murders
- Apple Watch is NOT required for Apple Health to work; steps, floors climbed are counted using iPhone hardware (dedicated low-power co-processor)
  - Native Apple Health data is synced with iCloud to all registered devices
  - Third-party app data contribute even more data but sometimes do not share some with Apple Health, but use proprietary cloud sync (Strava, Endomondo)
  - Apple Health data **can** be obtained from iCloud
  - May contain significantly more information compared to what is available on device
  - Technically, Apple Health belongs to “synced data” as opposed to “cloud backups”
    - Since iOS 12, Health is additionally encrypted
    - Apple won’t provide Health data to LE through government requests
    - Our software can download and decrypt it



## Apple Screen Time

- Comprehensive usage statistics (incl. Safari history)
- Usage restrictions remotely enforceable
- Collected from all devices sharing the same Apple ID
  - + from child accounts
- iCloud sync requires Two-Factor Authentication
- Screen Time data is additionally protected
- Passcode or system password required to access Screen Time data
- Screen Time password is stored in the iCloud, and we can extract it





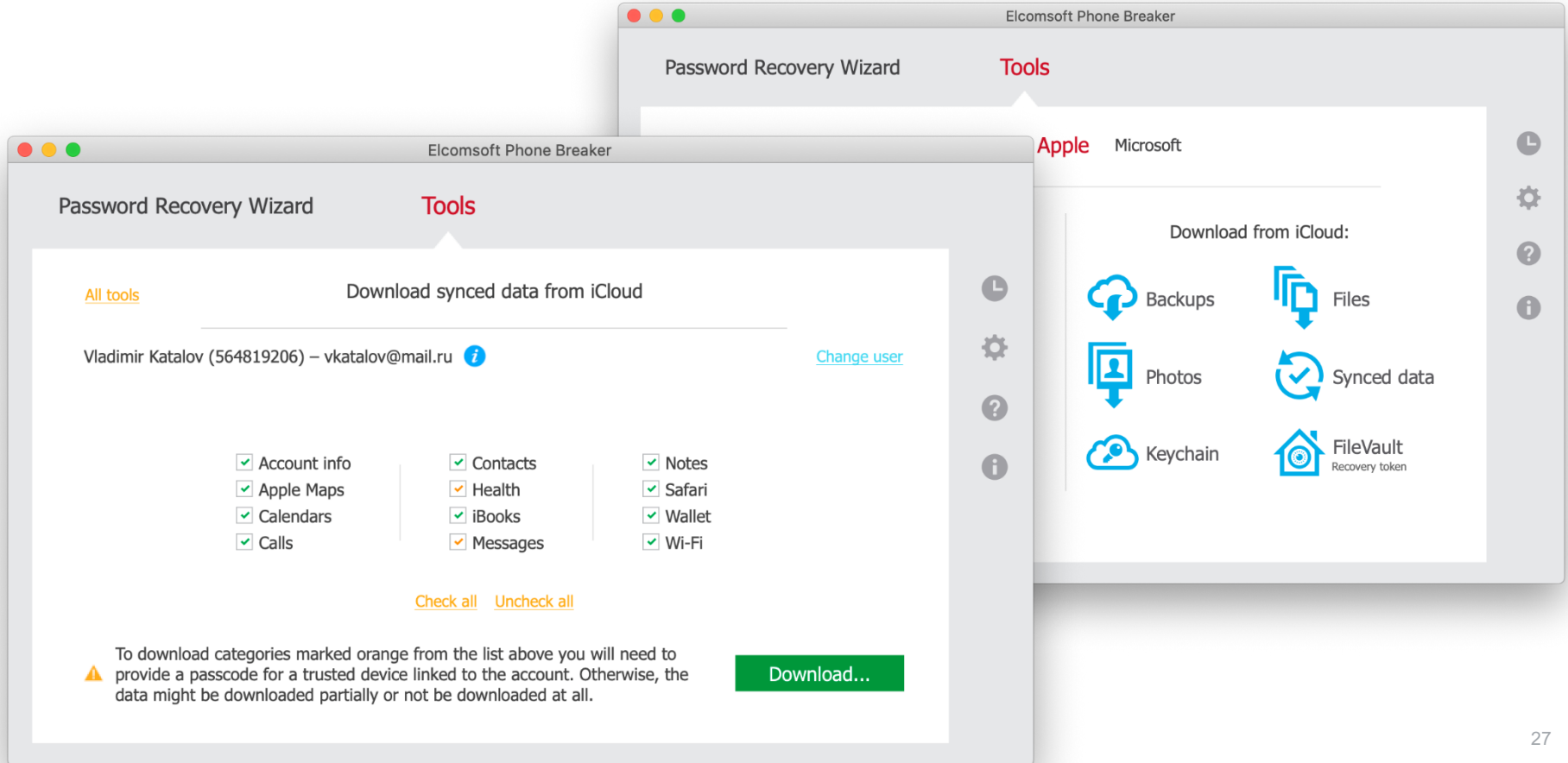
## Google account forensics

- Google is not equal to Android
- Data is collected and synced across multiple devices and sources: smartphones (Android and iOS), tablets, desktops (Windows and macOS)
- Devices backups do not contain valuable information; most data is synced
- Full Google Chrome data is being saved
- Location is almost always tracked and saved forever
- All passwords used in Google Chrome are saved and so accessible
- Complete statistics on device and app usage is collected

## Cloud Forensics: Conclusion

- Apple and Google collect as much data as possible (and increasing)
- Most data synchronized in real-time, sometimes once a day
- 2FA is used to secure cloud access
- Apple has additional protection (device passcode required to access passwords, Health, Screen Time, Messages)
- Always collect passwords and tokens from desktops even if you are investigating the smartphone only
- Cloud data provided by Apple to LE is limited; our software can extract **more** information
- Cloud acquisition can help access data from multiple devices (including locked or damaged)
- Cloud credentials can be collected from desktop computer, another smartphone or tablet





## Download snapshot



Select data categories to download

- User Info
- Dashboard
- Chats
- Contacts
- Google Keep
- Chrome
- Calendars
- Locations
- Media (0 files)
- History
- Calls
- Wi-Fi
- Mail (73965 mails)  
[Add date filter](#)
- Messages

[Check All](#) [Uncheck All](#)



Selected token allows extracting only a limited set of data categories. To get the ones disabled here, use the password authentication.

Cancel

Download

## Cloud Forensics: Credentials

- Passwords saved in desktop and mobile browsers
- Passwords re-use (human factor issue)
- An ability to reset password and replace second factor right from passcode-protected device
- An ability to reset password through email
- Authentication tokens saved on device or desktop (Windows & macOS X)
- Social engineering attacks
- Keyloggers and malware (used by GCHQ and similar agencies)
- Access via IoT devices
- Legal access (for serious crime cases)



# Computer, Mobile & Cloud Forensics

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