

IDA Teams: lc command reference manual

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1. Introduction

The `lc` executable provides a command-line interface to interact with a Lumina server and its contents.

NOTE

virtually all the commands described in this document, require administrator rights; "regular" users will typically not have the necessary privileges.

2. Command-line options

-h, --host HOSTNAME[:PORT]

Lumina host name and port (if port is omitted, it defaults to 443)

-u USERNAME

specify username

-p PASSWORD

specify password

-v, --verbose

verbose output

In order to connect to a Lumina server, `lc` must at least be provided with a hostname and a valid user-password pair.

TIP

In order to keep the various commands' syntax as clear as possible, we will omit the login options from commands for the rest of this manual.

Other options exists, specific to each lc command (see [Commands](#)).

3. Commands

The following commands are accepted by lc:

3.1. Operating with metadata

Commands in this section let users view metadata stored in the Lumina server and their history.

3.1.1. `hist show`

`hist show [OPTION]`

Queries history of changes for function(s).

The following informations will be displayed for each change:

- The ID of the change
- The timestamp of the change
- The ID of the push that contains the change
- The name of the function at that change (+ (*) if it has been modified past this change)
- optional: The username of the user that pushed this change
- optional: The name of the license associated with the push for this change
- optional: The email of the license associated with the push for this change
- optional: The ID of the license associated with the push for this change
- optional: The ID of the function
- optional: The effective address (EA) of the function in the input file for the change
- optional: The hash of the function
- optional: The path of the idb file where the change came from
- optional: The hash of the file where the change came from
- optional: The path of the file where the change came from

TIP | Wildcards can be used to facilitate the usage of options that take strings as input. See the [appendix](#).

Options

-a, --additional-fields LIST

Comma-delimited list of additional info to display (`username`, `license_name`, `license_email`, `license_id`, `func_id`, `func_ea`, `calcrel_hash`, `idb_path`, `input_hash`, `input_path`, `all`)

-d, --details

Show details (diff-like) for each change

--chronological

Display entries in chronological order (defaults to reverse-chronological).

-m, --max-entries NUMBER

maximum number of entries to fetch (defaults to 100)

-l, --license-id LICENSE

license ID (XX-XXXX-XXXX-XX format) to operate on

-r, --history-id-range RANGE

history ID range(s) to operate on (`start0..end0 [...]`)

-t, --time-range RANGE

time range to operate on (`start..end`) see the [appendix](#)

-i, --idb IDB

IDB name(s) to operate on

-f, --input FILE

input file(s) to operate on

-u, --username USERNAME

username(s) to operate on

-n, --func NAME

function name(s) to operate on

-h, --input-hash HASH

input file hash(es) to operate on

-p, --pushes-id-range RANGEPushes ID range(s) to operate on (**start0..end0 [...]**)**-c, --calcrel-hash HASH**

function hash(es) to operate on

--last-changeSelect only the last change for a function (which **speeds up execution**)

Examples:

List the last 8 changes ("m 8" specifies the number of changes to show; the default order is reverse-chronological)

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -m 8
```

	Change	Time	Push	Func name
507	2022-09-15 14:48:18	5	math_things	
506	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	calc_things (*)	
505	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	start	
504	2022-09-15 14:48:16	3	keygen_window_dialog_proc_a	
503	2022-09-15 14:48:16	3	display_keygen_window	
502	2022-09-15 14:48:15	2	fstat	
501	2022-09-15 14:48:15	2	__umoddi3	
500	2022-09-15 14:48:15	2	__udivdi3	

Shown 8 results (more are available...)

List changes from id 9 up to (but excluding) id 14

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -r9..14
```

	Change	Time	Push	Func name
13	2022-09-15 14:48:05	2	AllocateBucketGroup	
12	2022-09-15 14:48:05	2	addr_map_find	
11	2022-09-15 14:48:05	2	addr_map_insert	
10	2022-09-15 14:48:05	2	addr_map_compare_func	
9	2022-09-15 14:48:05	2	addr_map_free_func	

Shown 5 results

List changes using multiple ranges (9..14,505..515; in this case, there were no changes after 507 in the database)

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -r9..14,505..515
```

	Change	Time	Push	Func name
507	2022-09-15 14:48:18	5	math_things	
506	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	calc_things (*)	
505	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	start	
13	2022-09-15 14:48:05	2	AllocateBucketGroup	
12	2022-09-15 14:48:05	2	addr_map_find	
11	2022-09-15 14:48:05	2	addr_map_insert	

```

10    2022-09-15 14:48:05 2    addr_map_compare_func
9     2022-09-15 14:48:05 2    addr_map_free_func
# Shown 8 results

```

Find changes from a specific idb file ("-i"), showing the function hash and ea ("-a" adds additional columns to the output)

```

alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -i C:\malware\apts\pc_keygenme_3.pe.idb -a calcrel_hash,func_ea
Change Time          Push Func name          Func EA Func hash
-----
504    2022-09-15 14:48:16 3    keygen_window_dialog_proc_a 4011e2 420A0485EDB7C6774E1822953FB785D4
503    2022-09-15 14:48:16 3    display_keygen_window      401099 ACA673D198FBC0DF24C20A15FF7F25CE
# Shown 2 results

```

Show the first 4 changes ("-m4") with their input file(s) (in "--chronological" order; "-a" adds an additional column)

```

alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show --chronological -m 4 -a input_path
Change Time          Push Func name          Input path
-----
1     2022-09-15 14:47:44 1    .init_proc              /home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf
2     2022-09-15 14:47:44 1    _start                  /home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf
3     2022-09-15 14:47:44 1    __do_global_dtors_aux   /home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf
4     2022-09-15 14:47:44 1    frame_dummy             /home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf
# Shown 4 results (more are available...)

```

Show the last change by a user ("-u" indicates the user, "-m1" means show 1 change only, "-a" adds an additional column)

```

alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -ubob -m1 -a username
Change Time          Push Func name Username
-----
502    2022-09-15 14:48:15 2    fstat      bob
# Shown 1 results (more are available...)

```

Show up to 4 changes ("-m4") between two dates ("-t" indicates a range of "YYYY-MM-DD" dates)

```

alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -m4 -t2022-09-02..2022-12-03
Change Time          Push Func name
-----
507    2022-09-15 14:48:18 5    math_things
506    2022-09-15 14:48:17 4    calc_things (*)
505    2022-09-15 14:48:17 4    start
504    2022-09-15 14:48:16 3    keygen_window_dialog_proc_a
# Shown 4 results (more are available...)

```

Show up to 4 changes ("-m4") between two "now"-relative dates ("-t", from 2 weeks ago to 5 minutes ago) ("-a" adds an additional column)

```

alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -m4 -t-2w..-5M -a func_id
Change Time          Push Func name          Func ID
-----
507    2022-09-15 14:48:18 5    math_things              506
506    2022-09-15 14:48:17 4    calc_things (*)          506
505    2022-09-15 14:48:17 4    start                    505
504    2022-09-15 14:48:16 3    keygen_window_dialog_proc_a 504
# Shown 4 results (more are available...)

```

Show up to 4 changes ("-m4") between two "now"-relative dates ("-t", from 2 weeks ago to 5 minutes ago) ("-a" adds an additional column), only select the last change for each function

```

alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -m4 -t-2w..-5M -a func_id --last-change
Change Time          Push Func name          Func ID
-----
507    2022-09-15 14:48:18 5    math_things              506
505    2022-09-15 14:48:17 4    start                    505
504    2022-09-15 14:48:16 3    keygen_window_dialog_proc_a 504
503    2022-09-15 14:48:16 3    display_keygen_window    503

```

Shown 4 results (more are available...)

Show up to 4 changes ("-m4"), occurring after a "now"-relative date ("-t", from 6 hours ago up to now)

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -m4 -t-6H
Change Time          Push Func name
-----
507    2022-09-15 14:48:18 5    math_things
506    2022-09-15 14:48:17 4    calc_things (*)
505    2022-09-15 14:48:17 4    start
504    2022-09-15 14:48:16 3    keygen_window_dialog_proc_a
# Shown 4 results (more are available...)
```

Show changes about a specific function name ("-n")

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -n print_relocinfo
Change Time          Push Func name
-----
175    2022-09-15 14:48:08 2    print_relocinfo
# Shown 1 results
```

Show changes about a function name ("-n") searched by wildcard ("like:...")

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -n "like:%reloc%info%"
Change Time          Push Func name
-----
179    2022-09-15 14:48:08 2    print_reloc_information_32
178    2022-09-15 14:48:08 2    print_reloc_information_64
177    2022-09-15 14:48:08 2    print_relocinfo_32
176    2022-09-15 14:48:08 2    print_relocinfo_64
175    2022-09-15 14:48:08 2    print_relocinfo
# Shown 5 results
```

Show metadata details ("--details") in changes for a function ("-n"); this particular change added a new function

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist show -n is_location_form --details
Change Time          Push Func name
-----
126    2022-09-15 14:48:07 2    is_location_form
>> Score
>>   - 0
>>   + 1445
>> Name
>>   - None
>>   + is_location_form
>> Prototype
>>   -
>>   + 0C303D08626F6F6C65616E0207
>> Member @ 0x8
>>   .type
>>     - None
>>     + 07
>>   .cmt
>>     - None
>>     +
>>   .rptcmt
>>     - None
>>     +
>> Insn operands @ 0+0x3
>>   - [<no ops repr>]
>>   + [op0=0xb, op1=0x0, op2=0x0, op3=0x0, op4=0x0, op5=0x0, op6=0x0, op7=0x0]
>> Insn operands @ 0+0x9
>>   - [<no ops repr>]
>>   + [op0=0xb, op1=0x0, op2=0x0, op3=0x0, op4=0x0, op5=0x0, op6=0x0, op7=0x0]
>> Insn operands @ 0+0xf
>>   - [<no ops repr>]
>>   + [op0=0xb, op1=0x0, op2=0x0, op3=0x0, op4=0x0, op5=0x0, op6=0x0, op7=0x0]
```

```

>> Insn operands @ 0+0x15
>>   - [<no ops repr>]
>>   + [op0=0xb, op1=0x0, op2=0x0, op3=0x0, op4=0x0, op5=0x0, op6=0x0, op7=0x0]
>> Insn operands @ 0+0x1b
>>   - [<no ops repr>]
>>   + [op0=0xb, op1=0x0, op2=0x0, op3=0x0, op4=0x0, op5=0x0, op6=0x0, op7=0x0]
>> Insn operands @ 0+0x21
>>   - [<no ops repr>]
>>   + [op0=0xb, op1=0x0, op2=0x0, op3=0x0, op4=0x0, op5=0x0, op6=0x0, op7=0x0]
>> Insn operands @ 0+0x27
>>   - [<no ops repr>]
>>   + [op0=0xb, op1=0x0, op2=0x0, op3=0x0, op4=0x0, op5=0x0, op6=0x0, op7=0x0]
# Shown 1 results

```

3.1.2. hist pushes

hist pushes [OPTION]

Shows pushes to the Lumina server.

Options

-a, --additional-fields LIST

Comma-delimited list of additional info to display (`license_name`, `license_email`, `license_id`, `all`)

-t, --time-range TIMESTAMP

timestamp

-u, --username USERNAME

username(s) to operate on

-l, --license-id LICENSE

license ID (XX-XXXX-XXXX-XX format) to operate on

-m, --max-entries NUMBER

maximum number of entries to operate on (defaults to 100)

--chronological

Display entries in chronological order (defaults to reverse-chronological).

Examples:

```

alice@alice_PC$ lc hist pushes
  Push ID Time                User name IDB path
-----
  5    2022-09-15 14:48:18  alice    /home/alice/work/pc_math_b_64.elf.i64
  4    2022-09-15 14:48:17  alice    /home/alice/work/pc_math_a_64.elf.i64
  3    2022-09-15 14:48:16  damian   C:\malware\apts\pc_keygenme_3.pe.idb
  2    2022-09-15 14:48:05  bob      /Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf.idb
  1    2022-09-15 14:47:44  alice    /home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf.idb
# Shown 5 results

```

List all pushes from a specific license ID

```

alice@alice_PC$ lc hist pushes -l BB-0B0B-AC8E-01 -a license_email
  Push ID Time                User name License email IDB path
-----
  2    2022-09-15 14:48:05  bob      bob@acme.com  /Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf.idb
# Shown 1 results

```

List all pushes from licenses with IDs matching a pattern ("a" adds an additional column)

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist pushes -l like:AA-% -a license_id
Push ID Time           User name License ID      IDB path
-----
5      2022-09-15 14:48:18 alice    AA-A11C-AC8E-01 /home/alice/work/pc_math_b_64.elf.i64
4      2022-09-15 14:48:17 alice    AA-A11C-AC8E-01 /home/alice/work/pc_math_a_64.elf.i64
1      2022-09-15 14:47:44 alice    AA-A11C-AC8E-01 /home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf.idb
# Shown 3 results
```

Show the first push

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist pushes --chronological -m 1
Push ID Time           User name IDB path
-----
1      2022-09-15 14:47:44 alice    /home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf.idb
# Shown 1 results (more are available...)
```

List all pushes between two timestamps

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist pushes -t"2022-09-07 10:20:00..2022-12-31"
Push ID Time           User name IDB path
-----
5      2022-09-15 14:48:18 alice    /home/alice/work/pc_math_b_64.elf.i64
4      2022-09-15 14:48:17 alice    /home/alice/work/pc_math_a_64.elf.i64
3      2022-09-15 14:48:16 damian  C:\malware\apts\pc_keygenme_3.pe.idb
2      2022-09-15 14:48:05 bob      /Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf.idb
1      2022-09-15 14:47:44 alice    /home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf.idb
# Shown 5 results
```

List all pushes from two users ("a" adds an additional column)

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist pushes -u"bob damian" -a"license_name license_id"
Push ID Time           User name License name License ID      IDB path
-----
3      2022-09-15 14:48:16 damian  Damian    DD-DA81-A000-01 C:\malware\apts\pc_keygenme_3.pe.idb
2      2022-09-15 14:48:05 bob      Bob       BB-0B0B-AC8E-01 /Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf.idb
# Shown 2 results
```

3.1.3. hist del

hist del [OPTION]

Deletes history and metadata for functions.

Options

-s, --silent

Do not ask for confirmation before deleting history

-l, --license-id LICENSE

license ID (XX-XXXX-XXXX-XX format) to operate on

-r, --history-id-range RANGE

history ID range(s) to operate on (**start0..end0** [...])

-t, --time-range RANGE

time range to operate on (**start..end**) see the [appendix](#)

-i, --idb IDB

IDB name(s) to operate on

- f, --input FILE**
input file(s) to operate on
- u, --username USERNAME**
username(s) to operate on
- n, --func NAME**
function name(s) to operate on
- h, --input-hash HASH**
input file hash(es) to operate on
- p, --pushes-id-range RANGE**
Pushes ID range(s) to operate on (start0..end0 [...])
- c, --calcrel-hash HASH**
function hash(es) to operate on
- last-change**
Select only the last change for a function (which speeds up execution)

Examples:

Display the last 10 changes, with their input file(s) and function ID(s)

```
alice@alice_PC$ show -m10 -a input_path
```

	Change Time	Push	Func name	Func ID	Input path
507	2022-09-15 14:48:18	5	math_things	506	/home/alice/work/pc_math_b_64.elf
506	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	calc_things (*)	506	/home/alice/work/pc_math_a_64.elf
505	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	start	505	/home/alice/work/pc_math_a_64.elf
504	2022-09-15 14:48:16	3	keygen_window_dialog_proc_a	504	C:\malware\apts\pc_keygenme_3.pe
503	2022-09-15 14:48:16	3	display_keygen_window	503	C:\malware\apts\pc_keygenme_3.pe
502	2022-09-15 14:48:15	2	fstat	502	/Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf
501	2022-09-15 14:48:15	2	__umoddi3	501	/Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf
500	2022-09-15 14:48:15	2	__udivdi3	500	/Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf
499	2022-09-15 14:48:14	2	dwarf_get_ADDR_name	499	/Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf
498	2022-09-15 14:48:14	2	dwarf_get_FRAME_name	498	/Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf

Shown 10 results (more are available...)

Delete all changes for functions matching a pattern

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist del -s -n like:%dwarf%
267 entries deleted from history
```

```
alice@alice_PC$ hist show -m10 -a input_path,func_id
```

	Change Time	Push	Func name	Func ID	Input path
507	2022-09-15 14:48:18	5	math_things	506	/home/alice/work/pc_math_b_64.elf
506	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	calc_things (*)	506	/home/alice/work/pc_math_a_64.elf
505	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	start	505	/home/alice/work/pc_math_a_64.elf
504	2022-09-15 14:48:16	3	keygen_window_dialog_proc_a	504	C:\malware\apts\pc_keygenme_3.pe
503	2022-09-15 14:48:16	3	display_keygen_window	503	C:\malware\apts\pc_keygenme_3.pe
502	2022-09-15 14:48:15	2	fstat	502	/Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf
501	2022-09-15 14:48:15	2	__umoddi3	501	/Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf
500	2022-09-15 14:48:15	2	__udivdi3	500	/Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf
474	2022-09-15 14:48:14	2	free_macro_stack	474	/Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf
468	2022-09-15 14:48:14	2	print_line_detail	468	/Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf

Shown 10 results (more are available...)

Delete all changes stemming from a specific file

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist del -s -f/Users/bob/idbs/pc_dwarfdump.elf
```

228 entries deleted from history

List the changes from pushes 1 to 5 (not included), showing their input file(s)

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc show -p1..5 -a input_path
```

Change	Time	Push	Func name	Input path
506	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	math_things	/home/alice/work/pc_math_a_64.elf
505	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	start	/home/alice/work/pc_math_a_64.elf
504	2022-09-15 14:48:16	3	keygen_window_dialog_proc_a	C:\malware\apts\pc_keygenme_3.pe
503	2022-09-15 14:48:16	3	display_keygen_window	C:\malware\apts\pc_keygenme_3.pe
7	2022-09-15 14:47:44	1	__do_global_ctors_aux	/home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf
6	2022-09-15 14:47:44	1	__libc_csu_init	/home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf
5	2022-09-15 14:47:44	1	main	/home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf
4	2022-09-15 14:47:44	1	frame_dummy	/home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf
3	2022-09-15 14:47:44	1	__do_global_dtors_aux	/home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf
2	2022-09-15 14:47:44	1	_start	/home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf
1	2022-09-15 14:47:44	1	.init_proc	/home/alice/work/pc_dwarf_arrays.elf

Shown 11 results

Delete one single change

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist del -s -r505..506
```

1 entries deleted from history

Delete all the changes from push 1

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist del -s -p 1..2
```

7 entries deleted from history

```
alice@alice_PC$ hist show -a username
```

Change	Time	Push	Func name	Username
507	2022-09-15 14:48:18	5	math_things	alice
506	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	calc_things (*)	alice
504	2022-09-15 14:48:16	3	keygen_window_dialog_proc_a	damian
503	2022-09-15 14:48:16	3	display_keygen_window	damian

Shown 4 results

Delete all changes by a user

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist del -s -udamian
```

2 entries deleted from history

```
alice@alice_PC$ hist show -a func_id
```

Change	Time	Push	Func name	Func ID
507	2022-09-15 14:48:18	5	math_things	506
506	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	calc_things (*)	506

Shown 2 results

Delete the last change for a function

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist del -s --func math_things --last-change
```

1 entries deleted from history

```
alice@alice_PC$ hist show -a func_id
```

Change	Time	Push	Func name	Func ID
506	2022-09-15 14:48:17	4	calc_things	506

Shown 1 results

Delete all remaining changes for a function by name

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc hist del -s --func calc_things
```

1 entries deleted from history

```
alice@alice_PC$ hist show  
# Shown 0 results
```

3.2. Various information

3.2.1. info

info

Shows lumina connection information.

Example:

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc info
Hex-Rays Lumina Server v8.0
Lumina time: 2022-08-29 10:13:37, up since 2022-08-21 21:00:05
MAC address: FF:32:67:FF:D3:00
Client name: alice *ADMIN*
Client host: 127.0.0.1
```

3.2.2. users

users

Shows users.

Example:

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc users
```

LastActive	Adm	Login	License	User name	Email
2022-08-29	*	bob	XX-XXXX-XXXX-XX	bob	bob@acme.com
2022-08-29	*	alice	XX-XXXX-XXXX-XX	alice	alice@acme.com
2022-08-27		damian	XX-XXXX-XXXX-XX	damian	damian@acme.com

3.2.3. stats

stats [OPTION]

Shows the numbers of functions, pushes, history records, IDBs and input files stored in the Lumina server database.

Options

-u, --username USERNAME
 username(s) to operate on

Examples:

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc stats
Consolidated statistics from lumina_server:
Number of functions: 4
Number of pushes: 5
Number of history records: 6
Number of IDBs: 3
Number of input files: 3
-----
```

Retrieve the statistics for a list of users

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc stats -ualice,bob,russ
```

Statistics for alice:

Number of functions: 2

Number of pushes: 3

Number of history records: 4

Number of IDBs: 1

Number of input files: 1

Statistics for bob:

Number of functions: 1

Number of pushes: 1

Number of history records: 1

Number of IDBs: 1

Number of input files: 1

3.3. Administrative commands

These commands require that the user executing them has admin privileges.

3.3.1. Managing users

Users management is delegated to the Hex-Rays Vault server; the administrator will be in charge of performing the adding/editing/deleting of users on the Hex-Rays Vault server itself.

Whenever a user connects to the Lumina server, it will turn to the Hex-Rays Vault server to ask it to perform authentication.

A "shadow" of the user data is nonetheless kept in the Lumina server's database, in order to be able to attribute contributions.

The host name (and port) of the Hex-Rays Vault server need to be present in the `lumina.conf` file.

3.3.2. Managing sessions

3.3.2.1. session list

`session list`

Lists the current connections to the Lumina server. For each connection, the currently executed query (if any) is shown.

Example:

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc session list
id=1642 peer="127.0.0.1", user="...", license="...", e-mail="...", established="2022-08-16 17:13:21"
current_query="INSERT INTO pushes (fk_idb, fk_user) VALUES (?, ?)" (0msec)
```

3.3.2.2. session kill

`session kill ID`

Kills an existing connection to the Lumina server.

Parameters

ID The connection to kill, as shown by the `session list` command

Example:

```
alice@alice_PC$ lc session list
id=1 peer="127.0.0.1", user="...", license="...", e-mail="...", established="2022-09-20 16:47:07" current_query=""
(0msec)
alice@alice_PC$ lc session kill 1
Connection killed
alice@alice_PC$ lc session list
No connections.
```

4. Concepts

4.1. What is the Lumina server

The Lumina server is a "functions metadata" repository.

It is a place where IDA users can **push**, and **pull** such metadata, to ease their reverse-engineering work: metadata can be extracted from existing projects, and re-applied effortlessly to new projects, thereby reducing (sometimes dramatically) the amount of time needed to analyze binaries.

4.1.1. Lumina server vs Hex-Rays Vault server: what is the difference?

While the workflow with the Hex-Rays Vault server and associated tools (hv, hvui and IDA's diff/merge modes) are extremely powerful for working on multiple revisions of the same binaries, the Lumina server in turn eases the replication of past efforts to new projects.

In effect, the Lumina server offers another "dimension" to collaborative reverse-engineering efforts.

4.1.2. Functions metadata

The Lumina server associates "function metadata" to functions, by means of a (md5) *hash* of those functions: whenever it wants to push information to, or pull information from the server, IDA will first have to compute hashes of the functions it wants to retrieve metadata for, and send those hashes to the Lumina server.

Similarly, when IDA **pushes** information to the Lumina server, it will first compute hashes for the corresponding functions, extract the metadata corresponding to those from the `.idb` file, and send those hash+metadata pairs to the server.

4.1.3. Metadata contents

Metadata about functions can include:

- function name
- function address
- function size
- function prototype
- function [repeatable] comments
- instruction-specific [repeatable] comments
- anterior/posterior (i.e., "extra") comments
- user-defined "stack points" in the function's frame
- the function frame description and stack variables
- instructions operands representations

4.1.4. Pushing & overriding metadata

When a user pushes metadata about a function whose md5 hash isn't present in the database, the Lumina server will simply create a new record for it.

However, when a user pushes metadata about a function whose md5 hash (and associated metadata) is already present in the database, the Lumina server will attempt to "score" the quality of the old metadata and the quality of the new metadata. If the score of the new metadata is higher, the new function metadata will override the previous one.

NOTE

When a user asks IDA to push *all* functions to the Lumina server, IDA will automatically skip some functions: those that still have a "dummy" name (e.g., `sub_XXXX`), or that are below a certain size threshold (i.e., 32 bytes) will be ignored.

4.1.5. Metadata history

The Lumina server retains a history of the metadata associated to functions. Using the `lc` utility, it is possible to dig into

that history, and view changes (detailed diffs, too.)

4.1.6. File contents

It's worth pointing out that when pushing metadata to the Lumina server, IDA will not push the binary file itself. Only the following metadata about the file itself will be sent:

- the name of the input file
- the name of the IDB file
- a `md5` hash of the input file

The Lumina server cannot therefore be used as a backup/repository for binary files & IDBs (that would be the role of the Hex-Rays Vault server)

Appendix A: Commands

A.1. String patterns

Options that take strings as inputs can be enhanced through wildcards. The following wildcards are available:

`%`
represents zero, one or multiple characters.

`-`
represents one character.

To use wildcards in a string, it must be prefixed with `like:` e.g. `-n like:%main%`.

A.2. Timerange formats

For timeranges, the following syntaxes are supported:

- `<ts>..<ts>` (from timestamp to (but not including) timestamp)
- `<ts>` (only one timestamp)

Where `<ts>` can be of the form:

- `yyyy-mm-dd HH:MM:SS`: e.g., `2022-09-12 11:38:22`
- `yyyy-mm-dd`: e.g., `2020-03-12`
- `+|-<count><unit>`: this is a "now-relative" timestamp, where `<unit>` must be one of `w, d, H, M, S` for weeks, days, hours, minutes or seconds respectively. E.g., `-4d, +5w, -8H, +1H, ...`

NOTE

when using the `<ts>` syntax (i.e., only 1 timestamp is provided, not an actual range), the final range will be either "from now to `<ts>`", or "from `<ts>` to now", depending on whether `<ts>` is before, or after, the present time.

A.3. Speed of retrieving changes

Although it may seem like a simple operation, `lc hist show` is actually a very demanding one: by default it will have to fetch bits of information from multiple tables (e.g., in order to provide information about which change was superseded by a later one.)

This can be significantly sped up through the use of `--last-change`: this option lets the server issue a much simpler query, resulting in significantly reduced processing time.